

Our Tour in Canada

By C.E.D.



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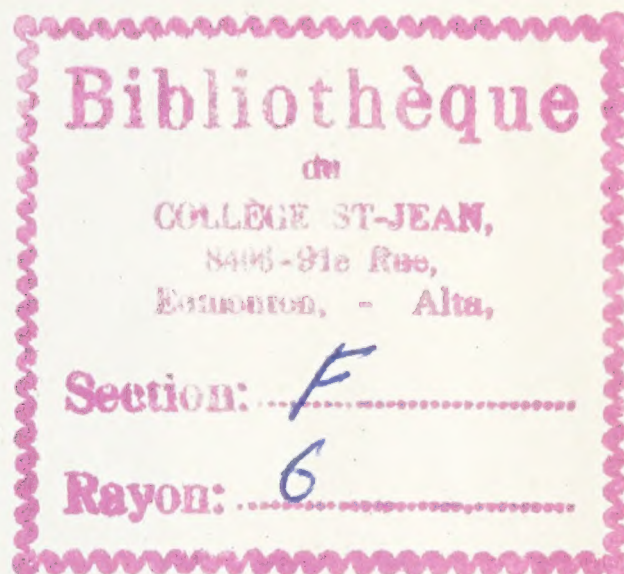
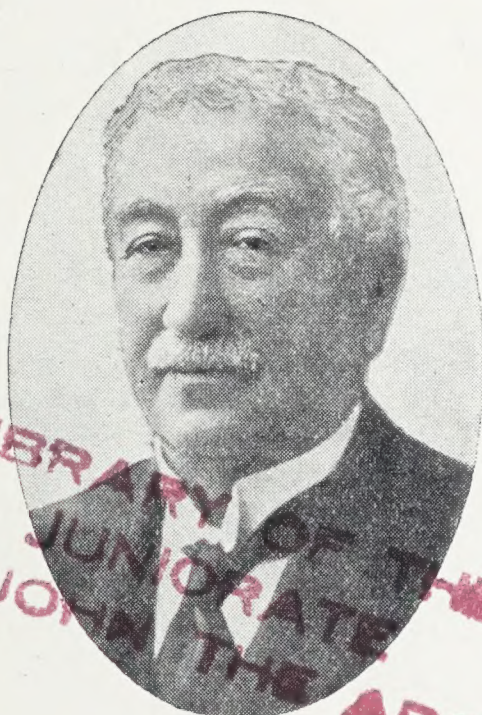
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OBITUARY.

It is with extreme regret that we have to announce that the writer of this book, the Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., died suddenly on February 1, 1921. He had devoted much time and labour to the production of the articles of which it is composed, and was looking forward to sending copies to the kind friends in Canada and the United States who had given so much attention to himself and Mrs. Davies on their great tour. Those of his many friends in Australia and Tasmania and elsewhere who become possessed of it now may well regard it as a memorial of one who made the most of his great opportunities to advance the common weal. His death was followed by remarkable demonstrations of sorrow throughout Tasmania, and Mrs. Davies received an enormous number of messages of sympathy from all parts of the Commonwealth, including letters of condolence from the Governor-General (Lord Forster), the Governor (Sir William Allardyce), members of the Imperial Press Conference, and all Tasmanian Public bodies. Where he was best known he was regarded with both affection and respect.

THE PUBLISHERS.

OUR TOUR IN CANADA



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BY
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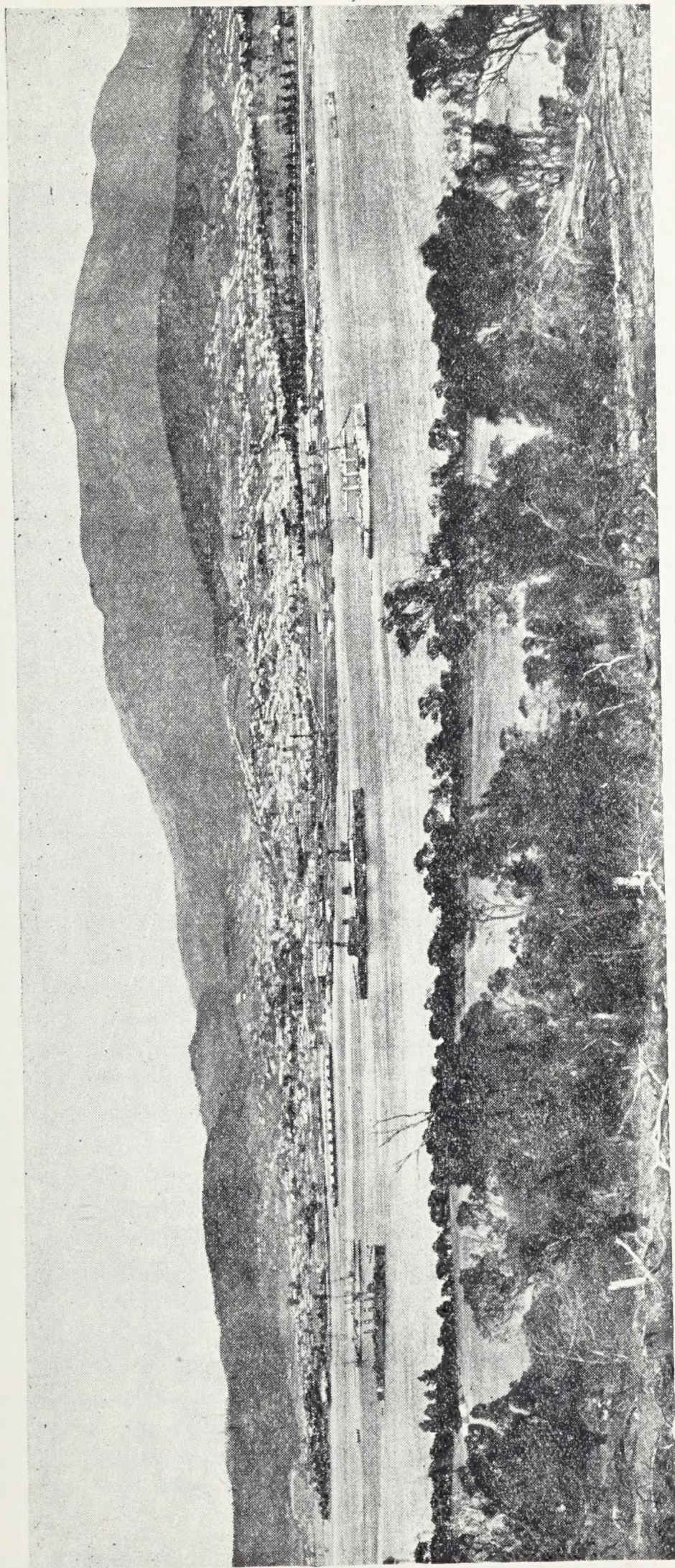
Author of
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A VIEW OF HOBART.

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FOREWORD.



HIS reproduction in book form of my notes on our Tour through Canada and part of America has been done at the request of a very large number of friends and well wishers who have been good enough to express appreciation of my efforts to briefly chronicle our impressions and experiences when in Canada attending the Imperial Press Conference.

In crediting my notes with being interesting and informative many of my readers have expressed a desire to have them in complete form, and it has been gratifying to me to comply. To render the narrative complete the various ceremonies attendant upon our departure and return, as well as several illustrations in connection with the tour, are included.

When the idea was originated of holding an Imperial Press Conference in England, the object was not fully understood. The proposal of the English Press to invite as guests the representatives of the principal newspapers of the Overseas Dominions seemed a mammoth proposition, almost too unwieldy to carry out. The desire to give visiting members an opportunity of seeing England as it was, meeting its public men, seeing its great institutions, its hives of industry, its ancient seats of learning, its wonderful commercial activities, and its teeming population, was a masterpiece of conception, and the more the proposal was discussed the more popular and laudable did it become. It was realised that the assembling of Overseas Press Representatives would lead to the ventilation of subjects of the greatest interest throughout the Empire, and be of special advantage also to the newspapers. How that great Conference assembled in London in 1909, and how it expanded into a wonderful demonstration of Imperial kinship and national solidarity, is now a matter of history. The splendid results which came from the Conference have been most beneficial to the Press and the people of the Empire. The increased facilities given to the Press for the dissemination of news throughout the world alone justified the gathering, while the formation of the Empire Press Union has proved a happy and efficient means of preserving the entente cordiale thus established. As the principal organiser, Mr. Harry Brittain (now Sir Harry), in conjunction with the late Lord Burnham, Lord Northcliffe, Sir A. T. Pearson, Hon. Harry Lawson (now Lord Burnham), and other most influential and enthusiastic newspaper owners, launched the first Press Conference, which was magnificently carried out, and was recognised as one of the most important gatherings of the Imperial Press that had ever taken place in England.

There was a consensus of opinion at the time that periodical meetings of a similar nature should be held in different parts of the Empire, but, owing to the outbreak of the war, the second conference was necessarily postponed till July, August, and September, 1920, when the great assemblage was held in Canada, at the invitation of the Canadian Press.

At both of these meetings I had the honour to represent Tasmania, and in connection with the last was induced to write my experiences, which were published in the Hobart "Mercury" and "The Tasmanian Mail," and are herewith reproduced in book form, together with a number of illustrations of scenes that have a bearing upon the text.

Lyndhurst, Hobart.
January, 1921.

B. E. Davis



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OUR TOUR IN CANADA

THE VOYAGE TO VANCOUVER



WHEN in 1909 the first Imperial Press Conference met in London and the Empire Press Union was formed, most of the delegates who attended were greatly impressed with the benefits which resulted therefrom; indeed, the advantages were so evident that it was no surprise that the desirableness of periodical gatherings of a similar nature, being held in different parts of the Empire, was favourably entertained. Canada was, at the suggestion of their representatives, considered the most desirable and convenient place for the next meeting. The outbreak of the war necessarily delayed the proposal, but at the beginning of 1920 an invitation came from the Canadian Press to hold a second conference there. Delegates from Australia, New Zealand, and other outlying parts of the Empire were invited to join the English representatives at Ottawa in July and August, all the preliminary arrangements being satisfactorily completed. The majority of the Australian delegates left Sydney en route to Auckland and Vancouver on Thursday, June 24, on the s.s. Niagara.

Previous to leaving we had a few days in Sydney, which gave us an opportunity of participating in some of the jubiliations and ceremonies which had been lavishly arranged for the reception of the Prince of Wales. The illuminations were most brilliant, and the effective displays on the shipping in the harbour throughout the city were really beautiful. All these have been fully described in the newspapers. Luncheons, dinners, receptions, the splendid ball of the Queen's Club at the Town-hall, the great floral gala entertainment at Her Majesty's Theatre, at most of which the Prince was present, to which we were invited, and appreciated the opportunity of meeting

the Prince and enjoying the hospitality of the Governor-General and the Governor and others. Delightful weather prevailed, and all the functions were most successful. We were thus in a measure compensated in having to leave Hobart before the Prince could visit Tasmania. After an uneventful trip of under four days Auckland was reached, where three days were spent in taking in cargo and increasing our passenger list, which included half a dozen New Zealand Press delegates.

PASSPORTS.

The delay and irritations caused through the examination of passengers and passports seemed to most of us rather an absurdity, but evidently found employment for a large number of officials, who certainly were considerate enough; but as we had to undergo a similar ordeal at Sydney, it was difficult for us to realise the necessity for a repetition. Our stay in Auckland during fine weather enabled us to appreciate the beautiful harbour and its attractive and imposing surroundings. Drives into the country afforded us opportunities of admiring the well-kept parks, the recreation grounds, the golf links, and the picturesque homes which capped the hills, and the lovely green pasture, which was everywhere, as far as the eye could reach, in evidence. The Elderslie racecourse, with its well-kept grounds and floral decorations, its well-grassed tracks, flat, and steeplechase, its commodious stands and electric totalisator arrangements, was visited, and, as the surroundings are very picturesque, stamp this as one of the prettiest courses in Australasia.

AUCKLAND.

The extensive views of mountains, harbour, plains, and watercourses obtained from Mount Eden, which rises in the

middle of the city, are beautiful. The city is hilly, and some of the streets very steep, but the electric tram service, which seems very complete and convenient, overcomes the climbing troubles. The streets are wide and the buildings and shops quite equal to the requirements of a city of about 140,000 people. A very big crowd assembled on the wharf to see the steamer sail, and included a large body of the Salvation Army, who came to say farewell to General Booth, who joined us here. The "soldiers" gave very inspiring hymns as we steamed away, under very favourable weather conditions, for our next stopping place, Suva, on Wednesday, June 30.

SUVA.

Life at sea is always more or less monotonous. Passengers began to fraternise at the outset, indulge in outdoor amusements and in card games, read, eat, and drink, and sleep, and so long as the weather conditions are favourable the voyage is enjoyable. Except for a beam sea, which see-sawed the big Niagara, more or less, to the discomfort of many, nothing occurred to disconcert anyone till we reached Suva on Saturday, July 3. Before leaving Auckland the disappointing information was imparted that we would not be allowed to land at Fiji, as the quarantine laws were still in force. However, the day previous to arriving the captain got a wireless advising that the embargo was to be removed that day, so that as we approached Suva on Saturday after lunch the passengers were looking forward to a run ashore for a few hours. Another wait for Customs and health officers kept us aboard till nearly 4 p.m.

Since our last visit here many improvements have been effected in wharf accommodation, new buildings, including the big hotel, and these add to the general attractiveness of the place. We spent a few hours very pleasantly on shore, and visited the well-kept parks and recreation reserves, where hundreds of people were engaged either as onlookers or players in football, tennis, and cricket, so that the residents seemed to have made ample provision for their recreation as well as their business. We met several Tasmanians here, a pleasant surprise to both, and they are well satisfied with Fiji and its prospects. The place seemed very busy, and the population very mixed. Like all tropical countries the foliage plants, flowers, and palms, with their many colours, invariably attract attention. From the water the dwellings, surrounded by shrubs and plants, overlooking the bay, have a very picturesque appearance. Before we left the wharf crowds of natives assembled, pushing the sale of

beads, baskets, and curios, and serenaded us with Fijian songs, much to the amusement of the passengers.

TO HONOLULU.

Soon after 10 p.m. we were well on our way to Honolulu, our next port of call. Next day we added another day to our week—two Saturdays—when the programmes of deck sports and games were started. The distance from Auckland to Suva is 1,140 miles, and to Honolulu 1,345, where we arrived on July 10, quite up to time. The accuracy with which these long runs are timed exemplifies the wonders of navigation, which impress those who go to sea more than those who remain at home. During these eight days we were favoured with delightful weather, and the passengers had all the enjoyment of mild and temperate breezes, and no inconvenience was felt when we crossed the Line. As we arrived at Honolulu early in the morning we lay outside the harbour till the usual visit of inspection by health and Customs officers was undergone. The counting of the passengers caused some amusement, as the doctor could not for some time get a correct tally. It reminded one of the story of the effort of a farm hand when asked to enumerate the number of the poultry, who reported that there were 97, but owing to one big rooster rushing about he could not be counted. It looked as if the elderly official had a similar worry. Eventually the ordeal was got through, and many privileged persons were allowed to board the steamer.

A day or two before, a wireless message had been received by the chairman of the Press delegates extending an invitation from representative citizens of Honolulu to be considered their hosts during the visit. Before reaching the wharf one of their hosts presented each of the delegates and their wives with the usual floral wreath (Aloha), the special mark of favour and welcome to honoured guests. These are expected to be worn during the day, and disposed of as the visitors take their farewell. The idea is a pretty one, and the compliment much appreciated. The day reminded one of a real Tasmanian summer day, and naturally special attention was directed to the non cognoscenti, of what we so frequently enjoyed in our own beautiful island home. Our hosts were soon in evidence, and took charge of us for the time we were in port. Motors galore were in attendance, and in charge of well-informed and most agreeable and communicative hosts.

We motored to all parts of this very much favoured and lovely island, including the famous Aquarium. It is a veritable tropical paradise, with its beautiful

bungalow homes in the midst of gorgeous foliage, flowering shrubs and trees, palms, crotons, and well-kept lawns. It is really monotonous in its beauty. The excellently asphalted and dustless roads, with umbrageous shelters, make motoring simply Elysian after one's Australian experiences. What a pity we cannot profit by the example! Every feature was pointed out to us, and expressions of admiration and appreciation fell from the lips of all. No word painting can adequately do justice to this paradise of the Pacific, and it is not my intention to attempt any further description of what may be considered "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever." Having feasted our eyes on these brilliant scenes we were entertained at the country's club, where are situated in picturesque surroundings a golf course, tennis courts, and other attractions. The grounds are most tastefully laid out, and the little undulating slopes, with floral beds and borders, and well-kept swards, must be seen to be appreciated.

The luncheon, which was presided over by Mr. B. McCaughay, a real "live wire" of the place, and a highly cultured gentleman, was very enjoyable. Many speeches were indulged in, that of the chairman, who enlarged upon the duties of the Anglo-Saxon and the necessity for preserving the integrity of our great Empire, being well received. Mr. Ford, who is well known in Hobart by our Tourist Department, is a great enthusiast, and loses no opportunity of sounding the praises and advantages of beautiful Honolulu. Expressions of appreciation were tendered by our chairman and others, and the writer being called upon was enthusiastic about their visit, intimating that, while their hosts and friends were naturally delighted with what they had seen, how much would their views be modified if they had had the opportunity of enjoying the lovely surroundings of the gem of the Southern Seas. Bravo, Tasmania! exclaimed one of our delegates.

After a general interchange of views we were motored back to the city, which seemed very busy, and increasing in business importance by erection of new buildings, fine hotels, and imposing shops. We visited that great hive of industry, the pineapple canning works, where about 4,000 are employed. Japanese and natives predominate. It was very instructive and interesting, but the opportunity was taken by me of calling attention to the great jam industry of Tasmania and its splendid plant, and the business so successfully carried on by Messrs. Jones and Co. in Hobart. The great industries of this place are sugar, pineapple canning, rice culture, and coffee. This has been a prohibition district for nearly two years.

Like all pleasant outings, the strenuous day ended at 5 p.m. by a profusion of sincere thanks to our genial and considerate hosts for their splendid hospitality, and all felt as we parted that we had left behind very many new friends and well-wishers, and all of us desired to have an opportunity of early reciprocating their "Aloha." As we were leaving for our next long voyage, we looked forward to renew at some early date very pleasing associations with our Honolulu friends. On the following day (Sunday) General Booth officiated at the church service, at which there was a large and appreciative congregation.

THE RUN TO VICTORIA, B.C.

Two days after leaving Honolulu the pleasure of the trip was considerably affected by a tragedy, through which we lost a steward, who early in the morning jumped through one of the portholes. Although the steamer hovered about the place for some time the poor fellow went to a watery grave. It is said that he had been acting strangely for some days, and, though constantly watched, had eventually eluded his keepers. Naturally, this incident caused some depression during the day.

Fine, but colder, weather prevailed during the rest of our run to Vancouver, where we expected to arrive early on Saturday, after a short stay at Victoria, which is about a 60 miles' trip. The best laid schemes, etc., etc. Our plans were much upset by our running into a thick fog soon after midday on Friday, 16th. We had made a good run the previous 24 hours—one of the best of the voyage—and expected to reach Vancouver about midday, but those ideas were dissipated when we heard the fog horn sounding, and that "dead slow" was the engineer's order. Those who have experienced a fog bank at sea will sympathise with the feelings of some of the passengers. It has a very depressing effect, and when occasionally the sounds of other sirens are heard near at hand, and with the knowledge that land is contiguous, and a view a hundred yards ahead is unobtainable, no wonder people get anxious. This suspense lasted till the early hours of the morning, when luckily a slight breeze sprang up and cleared away the fog. Still, we were delayed about ten hours. Some of the people were told by seamen that they had been stuck up for a couple of days by fog in these straits, so we consoled ourselves that our experiences were not so bad as they might have been.

We had many wireless press news messages on board during the voyage, but nothing of a startling nature.

ON TO VANCOUVER.

Before going up to Victoria we had to anchor off the quarantine ground, where the usual formal inspection, with its irritating delays, took place. We were only a couple of hours at Victoria, where a large contingent of Customs and Immigration officers were taken aboard, and their time was fully occupied in examining passengers' credentials during the run to Vancouver, which was reached soon after 9 p.m. (I think their time was 10 p.m., as they have the daylight saving here, and it is very popular.) Then came the landing of the passengers and luggage, the arrangements for which could very easily be improved upon. All the luggage had to go into the Customs sheds, and a couple of hours must have been taken up in getting clear.

When we drove up to the palatial Vancouver Hotel, where the Press delegates are the guests of the Canadian Press, several Press representatives met us, including Mr. Jno. Nelson, of the "Vancouver World," who is acting for our hosts, and we had a cordial welcome. A Canadian Pacific Railway official met us at Victoria, and came up with us to arrange for our railway tour across the Continent to Ottawa. It was found that the delegates had different ideas, and so instead of availing ourselves of the special carriage to take the party right through, most of us are going on our own, and will meet at Montreal about the end of July, and will attend the conference at Ottawa in the first week of August. Some of the party are going by easy stages, staying to view some of the big cities, etc. Having seen these we train through to Toronto, and then to Montreal, and will have some days to ourselves before joining the main party at Ottawa.

THE PROGRAMME.

The programme of conference is as follows:—

August 5, 10 a.m.—Address by Premier Meighen. General topics of the day, Empire Press, include Cables and Wireless Telegraphy, Press Censorship, Newsprint Supply, etc. Discussion opened by Viscount Burnham, and will continue

throughout afternoon until 4 o'clock, when discussion will centre on the subject of an Empire Press Union.

August 6.—Empire Partnership will be the only general topic at morning session.

August 7.—The morning session will be devoted to the topic of Empire Trade. The afternoon session will deal with The Press and Post-War Problems.

VANCOUVER.

It is a big undertaking our Canadian friends have arranged for us. It was a very busy scene at the hotel, hundreds booking rooms. Ours is 1129, so it will give you an idea of the proportions of one of the finest hotels in Canada. A queue was formed, and it took some time to arrange to accommodate the big crowd from the Niagara.

After a much-needed rest on Sunday morning, we were invited to and enjoyed a delightful motor drive after lunch, and had the opportunity of seeing the immense progress of the city of Vancouver since our last visit, eleven years ago. The roads are simply splendid, and it was quite a pleasure to motor over them for over 20 miles, through the parks and fronting the water (Fraser River). Hundreds of cars were about, and picnic and bathing parties were strongly in evidence. The fine umbrageous trees in the parks—on both sides of the drive—remind one of the drives of the Strickland-avenue to the Bower at Mount Wellington, except that the foliage here is brighter. It is not my intention to attempt to describe these places, for all these big cities, with their electric lights and trams and imposing buildings up to eleven storeys, with their attractive shops and busy streets, are much the same, some a little more pretentious than others, but, after all, they are well laid out, and excellently looked after, and no expense is spared in their maintenance.

The cost of living is simply awful; Australians are in a paradise compared to what we have already experienced, and it is but a circumstance to what we are yet to realise. Certainly, we will not want to unnecessarily prolong our stay, if all one hears is true. I will not anticipate, but live in hopes that the information is greatly exaggerated. *Nous verrons!* By the by, I was nearly overlooking Hamlet—the prohibition craze—which is in full force here. Opinions are very divided, but while the officials are most alert, they cannot prevent the thirsty man, enjoying, somehow, his W. and S. How! Not a yoke of bullocks could draw that from one, but thermos flasks are much more in evidence than they used to be!

REFLECTIONS EN ROUTE

So much has transpired during the past two months that I find a most heavy ordeal imposed upon me. How to begin to attempt to detail, or rather outline, in chronological order, with any degree of satisfaction, even to myself, may be called a Sisyphean labour, especially as the varied and interesting experiences undergone are so numerous, and the opportunities for recording them have been so difficult, that I am afraid the vast subject, which should be comprehensively dealt with, will, under the circumstances, not receive the justice its importance demands. I will try to record from memory, almost entirely, some account of our journeyings, the functions attended, the records of meetings, the people we have met, the welcomes accorded, and the features of our travels, and the impressions formed of the people and Canada, as well as the results of the Imperial Press Conference.

In connection with the Press Conference, it was hoped by the projectors—our Canadian friends—that all the invited Press delegates would have met in London about the third week in July, and sailed together for Sydney (Canada), but many of the Australians and New Zealanders were unable to fall into line, and instead joined the Niagara at Sydney (N.S.W.), for Vancouver, in the West. In consequence of this, some of us were absent from the functions which took place at Halifax, and other cities in the remote East, and at Quebec.

The cordial reception which met the delegates arriving from England has been described by those who participated, as most enthusiastic and flattering, but my notes will only deal with our own experiences. Although our party practically broke up at Vancouver, there was an understanding that we should all join the main delegation at Montreal in the beginning of August, which was carried out.

The arrangements made by the Canadian Press for the comfort and convenience of all attending the conference were really splendid. It is true the Dominion Government and the Canadian P.R. Co. were great factors in co-operating with the Canadian Press. They each provided a special train, most lavishly fitted out, to convey the party from East to West, and from West to East, and seeing that they numbered over 200 their contribution to the enormous outlay was munificent. Sleeping accommodation was provided for all. The married people had their own compartments, and the single members were well provided for in the sections. A

special dining-room car was on each train, and the catering for the large number was most liberal. More than a dozen coaches were attached to each engine, with a large observation car, with special attendants to administer to the wants and comforts of the delegates, and the ladies. A doctor and nurses also accompanied the party. Indeed, nothing was left undone to assure the success of the well thought out programme. The Governments of the different States joined most heartily in the welcome, while the people generally seemed to vie with each other in recognising the importance of the conference, and in making the visit of the Imperial Press a memorable one. The best hotels, and some of them are most luxurious, were availed of to entertain the party; indeed, no expense was spared to impress upon the visitors the cordiality and sincerity of the welcome.

It may be desirable for our friends to realise the strenuousness of our programme, and the intentions our hosts had to ensure our obtaining the best ideas of the magnitude and importance of Canada. The train journey which faced us was immense. From Vancouver to Montreal is 3,160 miles, a five days' (day and night) jaunt, so that taking other train journeys into consideration, most of us travelled over 8,000 miles by trains during our few weeks' touring in this vast country. What with motor-ing, training, and sea voyaging, the distances and times occupied in sightseeing since we left Australia ought to satisfy the cravings of the most enthusiastic globe trotter. It is not an experience one would like to indulge in more than twice in a lifetime—at all events, that is the conclusion most of us have arrived at. While the train travelling generally is pleasant enough, it is tiresome and monotonous, being cooped up for so long a time, and eating and sleeping, and dressing under somewhat strained conditions, discount a lot of the pleasure and satisfaction when visiting new scenes and places.

We enjoyed, while recuperating after our sea voyage, a few days in the much improved and prosperous city of Vancouver, of over 150,000 people, with its fine harbour and shipping accommodation, which is availed of by the largest ocean steamers. Here we received much kindness and attention, and had opportunities of noticing its growth and bustle, the extensive parks and picturesque surroundings, the beautiful suburbs and well-kept homes, its splendid motor roads and tram and train services, and its



PART OF WHARF AND HARBOUR, VANCOUVER.

electric light and power. We realised what the eleven years which had elapsed since our previous visit had succeeded in producing through the energy and enterprise of enthusiastic citizens bent upon making this favourably situated city the great centre of attraction of Western Canada. One heard of times of depression, which all new countries are liable to, but from the air of prosperity which apparently everywhere prevailed, it would be inferred that the people are thoroughly satisfied with their prospects, and sanguine as to their future. It would take columns to adequately describe all the features of Vancouver, and its fine public buildings and architecture, but my intentions are merely, *en passant*, to cursorily refer to the great cities which, during our travels, we visited.

In the middle of the week following our arrival at Vancouver, we were enabled to arrange to start by train to the East. Our first stopping place was to be Toronto, 2,826 miles, a five days' journey. To assure comfort and accommodation on these transcontinental trains, one has to arrange days before, so congested is the traffic. By delaying a couple of days we secured what is called a drawing-room compartment, which comprises two beds and a sofa, and all conveniences except a bath. The coaches are all corridor constructed, and a great boon to travellers is that ample provision is made for ice water, and paper cups only are used, so that clean drinking vessels are available for all, a necessary sanitary precaution, which travellers, generally mixed and varied, appreciate. This practice might well be adopted on Australian trains. When the train is in motion it naturally shakes one about, and many a bruise results going round the curves. Trains travel up to 40 miles an hour. They are electrically lighted, and not dust proof, which is a bugbear to everyone, especially in hot and dry weather. Occasionally there is a stop at stations far apart for ten minutes, and most people like to tread *terra firma* while the train waits. The signal from the porter, "All aboard," is the only warning when the train is starting. No whistle, so one has to be on the *qui vive*, or risk waiting for a later train.

THE ROCKIES.

The greater part of the train journey to Toronto, at least that which is covered in daylight, is most interesting. For upwards of a hundred miles we skirt the Fraser River, all along the banks of which are fine tracts of agricultural country in fertile valleys, and most seemed to be put to good advantage, utilised for dairying and mixed farming. Thriving towns and good homesteads, with many orchards, with excellent fruit

prospects are in evidence all along the winding and picturesque route, until we eventually reach the great Rocky Mountains, sublime in their majesty and overawing magnificence. The engineering ingenuity which has enabled the lines to be carved through these immense ranges and tortuous mountain courses excites one's admiration. Every now and then, it looks as if we were coming to a dead end, when a tunnel is entered, and probably an iron bridge, crossing a roaring mountain torrent, conveys us to the opposite side, where the track is formed by immense cuttings out of precipitous hills and burrowing in and out of the mountains at nerve-shaking heights. Still the permanent way on all C.P.R. lines is so admirably constructed and maintained that there is a feeling of perfect security even when gazing into the almost bottomless depths below. Being late in the summer, there was not much snow on the hills, but the caps of the distant high mountains were all white.

Coming to the foot of the Rockies, we pass Lake Louise and Banff, with their delightful surroundings, two of the most attractive resorts for tourists. There are magnificent hotels at both these places, and during the season it is most difficult to obtain accommodation. Some of our party, who had not taken the precaution to reserve rooms, had to go further afield or return to Vancouver.

CALGARY.

Later we come to the prairie country, where the fine city of Calgary has rapidly grown up. The splendid irrigation scheme which the enterprising C.P.R. Co. laid out has transformed the whole country for a hundred miles around into a veritable land flowing with milk and honey. Eleven years ago, on our former visit, it was an immense prairie, but now thousands of settlers occupy it, and the heavy growing cereal crops which meet the eye from here to Medicine Hat, over 100 miles, prove the immense advantages of irrigation. From the fine, well-kept homesteads, large and small, and the immense corn elevators, one recognises the energy and prosperity of the people and the permanency of this great industry. Few improvements in Canada impressed one more than this. These trackless prairies under scientific conditions and intense cultivation have become the greatest wheat producing areas of the world—the real backbone of the country's industries.

THE HORSE RANCHER.

During our journey I met a most interesting horse rancher, a really splendid, good-looking specimen of manhood. He

was dressed as a cowboy, over six feet in height, and looked as strong as a lion. He had had an accident when breaking in one of his horses, of which he had about a thousand on his ranch, and was proceeding to interview his doctor at Medicine Hat. He gave me an outline of his ranching life, and horse breaking, its ups and downs, and told how the stock was looked after in winter as well as summer. This rancher had been very successful, had high ideals,

SCENE IN THE ROCKIES.



MOUNT BURGESS, NEAR BANFF.

had volunteered and fought for his country. I was rather surprised to elicit during our conversation that the great principles of Freemasonry had greatly impressed him, and that he quite appreciated the pleasure and privilege of being a member of our illustrious order, and moreover, expressed himself in gratifying terms at the opportunity of meeting so prominent a Mason as the writer. He was a well informed man, and though an American, had little sympathy with the—as he called it—"narrow-minded parochialism" of his countrymen.

SNAPSHOTS IN THE ROCKIES.



THE LAKES IN THE CLOUDS, BANFF.



BOW RIVER FALLS, NEAR BANFF.



MOUNT RUNDLE, NEAR BANFF.

The stock along the line are mostly cattle and horses, and the condition of all the animals, apart from what one sees of the well-grassed paddocks, was sufficient evidence of the splendid season the settlers were enjoying. It made us quite envious to pass through thousands of green acres of rich pastoral country, well watered and well stocked with cattle and horses. Sheep are few and far between.

It must be noted here that during previous week there had been heavy rains which had brightened up the crops and grass, and made travelling the more pleasant. All through this highly favoured country to Regina and Winnipeg the same activity in agriculture prevails,

travelling, and, moreover, the boats are luxuriously fitted out, and fast, but an extra day is required to cover the distance. The train skirts the lake, and the country is rocky, flat, and uninteresting. It is said that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, but it is doubted if either Melbourne or Sydney would enthuse greatly over the two places near Winnipeg so named. At present a few huts and a station, with the name of each place painted up, are the only intimation that such exist. Still, like other great Canadian cities, there may in the near future arise, Phoenix-like, a replica of the great Australian cities. *Nous verrons!*

There are two places of more than or-

ANOTHER SCENE IN THE ROCKIES.



LAKE LOUISE CHALET.

and the cities spring up mushroom-like, till after a very few years they become most flourishing places.

WINNIPEG.

Winnipeg, one of the foremost, with a population of about 275,000, now assumes immense proportions, and is without doubt amongst the most populous and important cities of Canada. It has beautiful buildings, palatial stores and churches, fine streets and parks, and is one of the most important railway centres of Canada. Many travellers, on arrival at Port Arthur and Fort William, prefer to take the fine steamers across Lake Superior and Lake Huron to Owen Sound, and train to Toronto. This is a delightful change and relief from train

dinary interest one passes when traversing along the Lakes—the Nipigon River, where the Prince of Wales did some big game shooting, and the White River, said to be the coldest place in Canada. The timber industry about here finds employment for hundreds, and the cut logs along the river banks and in the bays showed that there is no scarcity of the material essential to keep the mills going. Any number of Indians, with their squaws and children, could be seen about the railway stations in this neighbourhood, which seem to be mostly used for railway purposes, such as coalings and water purposes, as well as for locomotive works. I noticed the immense engines have only two men on each, and judging by some of the numbers, up to 500,000, on the goods trucks, which are supposed to

SNAPSHOTS IN THE ROCKIES.



EMERALD LAKE, BANFF.



THE C.P.R. HOTEL, BANFF.

carry 20 to 30 tons, there should not be shortage of trucks. The goods engines have as many as fifty trucks, and some which passed us must have been a quarter of a mile in length. The grades generally are easy.

COST OF LIVING.

It was on Sunday afternoon we arrived at Toronto, the last hour taking us through nice undulating country, much under crop, and all looking well. Many of the homes, too, were very attractive,

wants anything to sustain one, about 12s., and only very ordinary fare. Poultry, about 6s. Vegetables, etc., 4s. Bread and butter, soup, sweets, and coffee all extra. There is no profiteering here? At every meal you have, the waiter expects a tip above 5 per cent. on the amount of your bill—not less than one shilling each time. If anything is brought to one's room, the messenger expects a tip. In fact, this imposition on travellers—considering the excessive hotel charges made—is a disgrace. One pays



MAIN-STREET, WINNIPEG.

and the gardens and foliage along the roads relieved the monotony after the lake country we had passed. We took up our quarters at the King Edward Hotel, and obtained comfortable rooms, with bathroom and all conveniences, such as are to be found in every first-class hotel, and they charge you accordingly for room only. Meals on trains, as everywhere in Canada, are charged at exorbitant rates. Breakfast, about 6s., very ordinary; lunch, about fifty per cent. more; and dinner all à la carte—if one

from one pound (five dollars) to (12 dollars) £2 10s. for one's room only per night, which will enable friends to realise what the cost of living is here. Beef and mutton, 50 to 70 cents a pound, would not satisfy Australians. However, my object is not to expose what is generally characterised as extortion, but to inform people as to what is expected from travellers—whether they approve or not. Inattention and bad service will result if one disregards this abominable system of tipping. The "beauty" of it is that

thanks are seldom given. The coin is put on one's plate and picked up in the most casual manner. These matters are referred to here, not as being confined to any one place, but as prevailing wherever we went in Canada; also in New York and Chicago, and probably more exaggerated in the United States. If no further notice is taken—it need not be inferred that as we moved about we escaped these exactions, for, if anything, like the snowball, they grew as our experience was extended.

TORONTO.

In Toronto we had a most enjoyable time, remaining there the greater part of a week. This is one of the busiest and finest of Canadian cities, and has a population of half a million. It is on Lake Ontario, and its shipping is of very great importance, its buildings for residential and private purposes are most attractive and imposing. The suburbs, with their picturesque surroundings and ornate gardens and shrubberies and handsome dwellings, with such attractive parks and approaches by excellent dustless roads, make these quite a feature of this prosperous and populous city. There are few fences to protect the gardens and lawns in front, which enables passers-by to fully appreciate the tout ensemble of beautiful homes.

Few outings are more pleasing and more patronised than a motor drive through the parks, boulevards, and suburbs of Toronto. Water excursions on the lake are most popular, and to Toronto Island thousands of visitors and residents cross the lake daily for picnic, bathing, and other recreations. Large steamers ply frequently to and fro. On the island are found all kinds of amusements, in imitation of Coney Island, New York; also bazaars, side-shows, fruit and refreshment stalls, swings, merry-go-rounds, et hoc est omne. There are drinks, not alcoholic, as this is a prohibition area. Boating and yachting and steam launch trips are amongst the pastimes of the residents. It was here that the great Hanlon, the world's champion sculler, first came into prominence, and one of the places on the lake bears his name and perpetuates his aquatic prowess. An immense grandstand, with a large enclosure in front, utilised for baseball, occupies a prominent position. A challenge match was being played during our visit. Thousands roared at the players—barracking, as we call it—and cheered their men. There was during the play some brilliant fielding and catching, and some of the throwers (bowlers) got a wonderful spin on the ball. Seldom is a ball hit along the ground, but invariably it goes heavenward, so that batting or hitting does not

give any scope for scientific play, like cricket. Baseball can have few attractions for cricketers, and none for has-beens like myself.

Thousands of pounds have been spent in reclamation works in the Toronto bay, and the land is being rapidly taken up for all kinds of important industries. Immense crowds of workers are still employed on these works, which have been the means of extending the industries of the city and its exports.



TWIN FALLS, YOHU VALLEY, IN
THE ROCKIES.

A BUSY CITY.

As in all the big cities, electric power for lighting, tramways and industrial purposes in Toronto is most extensively utilised, the water power from the great lakes and Niagara being conveyed hundreds of miles, and is still being extended in all directions. The bustle and rushing on the streets and the pathways, and the motors—used almost entirely for business as well as means of locomotion—complete a scene which can only be found in similarly populous cities. The sky-

scraping business places and hotels rather detract from the general appearance, but no inconvenience is experienced in visiting or doing business on the twentieth storey or sleeping there, as the fast elevators easily overcome these objections. During certain months of the year the lake at Toronto, like other Canadian lakes, is frozen over, but the people do not consider this any disadvantage. The traffic is well controlled in the principal streets by the police. The shops, or stores as they are called, are most attractive, and the prices more so. Stairs are sometimes dispensed with between ground and first floors, where are continuous movable staircases on which one steps and is conveyed without exertion to the higher floor. This lightens the work of the elevators or lifts, as thousands use the former during the day.

I have written nothing of the University and the fine colleges attached to it, churches, and other great institutions, also theatres, restaurants, banks, and insurance offices, etc., inseparable from a city of such dimensions; but suffice it to say that it would be difficult to cite any want which is not possessed by the people of Toronto. The present railway station, with its objectionable surroundings, is certainly the fly in the ointment, but will soon be replaced by something more in keeping. Hundreds of trains—both passengers and goods—pass through this station every day for all parts of Canada and the United States.

A NURSERY.

One of the most enjoyable outings we had was our visit to Brampton, by train to the celebrated Dale Estate, at which Mr. W. G. Peacock, a native of Sorell (Tas.), fills a very important position, which he has held for getting on to twenty years. There are over 24 acres of flowers, etc., under glass. It is one of the largest nurseries in the world, and to everyone with a love for flowers nothing more delightful could be experienced than the inspection of these excellently managed glass gardens. Flower culture is, of course, the great feature, though tomatoes are forced for early markets. The orchids excite universal admiration, this being one of the world's best known collections. Roses, carnations, bulbs, and all the best flowers for table and other decorations are produced and the prices obtained are fabulous. Boxes of flowers are sent to all parts of Canada and even to New York. The packing in ice and arrangements for despatch were all demonstrated, and were most instructive. The property is charmingly situated, and is surrounded by well grassed undulating meadows. It is an ideal place for a

home for anyone with floricultural tastes. Mr. and Mrs. Peacock (an English lady) entertained us most hospitably, and he was pleased to learn from us much information about old Tasmanian friends and conditions. He still keeps a big place in his heart for the land of his birth, and Tasmanians travelling towards Toronto would be well repaid by a visit to this celebrated estate, and would receive a cordial welcome from Mr. Peacock. The telephone book would reveal the number and if at home would be cheerfully answered by our Sorell friend.

ADVERTISING TASMANIA.

It may as well be here recorded that in Vancouver, on two or three occasions, also in Toronto twice, in Montreal and in Chicago, I was pleased to give my views on Australian and Tasmanian matters, and was gratified at the prominence given to the information obtained from press representatives in the leading papers. It is very surprising the ignorance which generally exists regarding Australia in Canada, and I am hopeful that some enlightenment will have followed the publicity it was the good fortune of myself and other delegates from time to time to place before the public. The fact is that Canadians have a most exalted opinion of the importance of their great country, and their whole souls are centred in advancing its interests. No one can blame them; but I told a big crowd at a show meeting in Vancouver, where, before leaving, I was asked to speak, that the sun did not only rise and set in Canada, but that there were other places in the world where a glimpse of the great planet was occasionally caught. "Where?" called out hundreds. "Why, in Australia and beautiful Tasmania," I replied, amidst great applause, for, of course, my remarks were well and good-naturedly received.

In Toronto I met many of the leading press people and prominent public men, not only in their offices, but at the National Club, and was promised a hearty welcome if I could return to their great annual exhibition at the end of the month, which I found later was inconvenient. The printing offices here which I visited were very much up-to-date, and many of the most recent advances in the art were pointed out to me. In all these big cities several newspapers, morning and evening, are to be found, up to 16 or 20 pages. Here paper is comparatively cheap, and supplies available.

We had intended to go to Montreal by steamer, up the St. Lawrence River, and through the thousand islands, but although we applied for accommodation—

for there is a night aboard—found that all berths were taken for a week, so we had to do another day's train travelling, which, however, proved interesting, as the country passed through is very attractive with the heavy crops of wheat,

etc., ripening and the fine pasturage everywhere.

Later we revisited Toronto with the Press delegates and additional objects of interest were pointed out which will be referred to in this record of our tour.

IMPRESSIONS OF TOWN AND COUNTRY

ENERGETIC AND PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE

MONTREAL.

On arrival at Montreal as guests of the Canadian press we had splendid accommodation provided for us at the Windsor Hotel, where a large number of other delegates were already located, and many of our own ship passengers rejoined us to await the coming of the English contingent, which arrived in full force a day later. This party had a great reception, from Halifax to Quebec, and on to Montreal. Now that the whole of the delegates had come together the principal part of the work of the conference was arranged.

During the short interval we had an opportunity of familiarising ourselves with Montreal, the largest and most important commercial city of Canada, with a population of nearly 700,000. It is built on an island, formed by the great St. Lawrence and Ottawa rivers. Nearly all the great Atlantic steamers call here. Some of their most important railways, controlled by the C.P.R. and Grand Trunk companies, radiate here in all directions, and cross the St. Lawrence over great bridges. The business houses, public buildings, banks, insurance offices are all built on a scale of grandeur which demonstrates the importance of this great city. The drive up to Mount Royal to the top, around the serpentine road, is most picturesque. As one ascends extensive panoramic views are afforded, and the magnitude of the city is realised—a pleasing sight to us were the ornate grounds of the caretaker near the top of the mountain, with ribbon borders and floral designs, representing the Union Jack, hearts, maple leaf, diamonds, and all kinds of fantastical and nicely blended colours. The hills are nicely timbered and beautifully green. Thousands resort here for picnics, riding and driving, and in the winter tobogganing, a very well patronised amusement.

Every city of the least pretensions in Canada has a splendid system of electric trams. Everywhere is advantage taken of the water for electric power, sometimes conveyed hundreds of miles.

There are lots of one-way streets in the city, which means that all conveyances

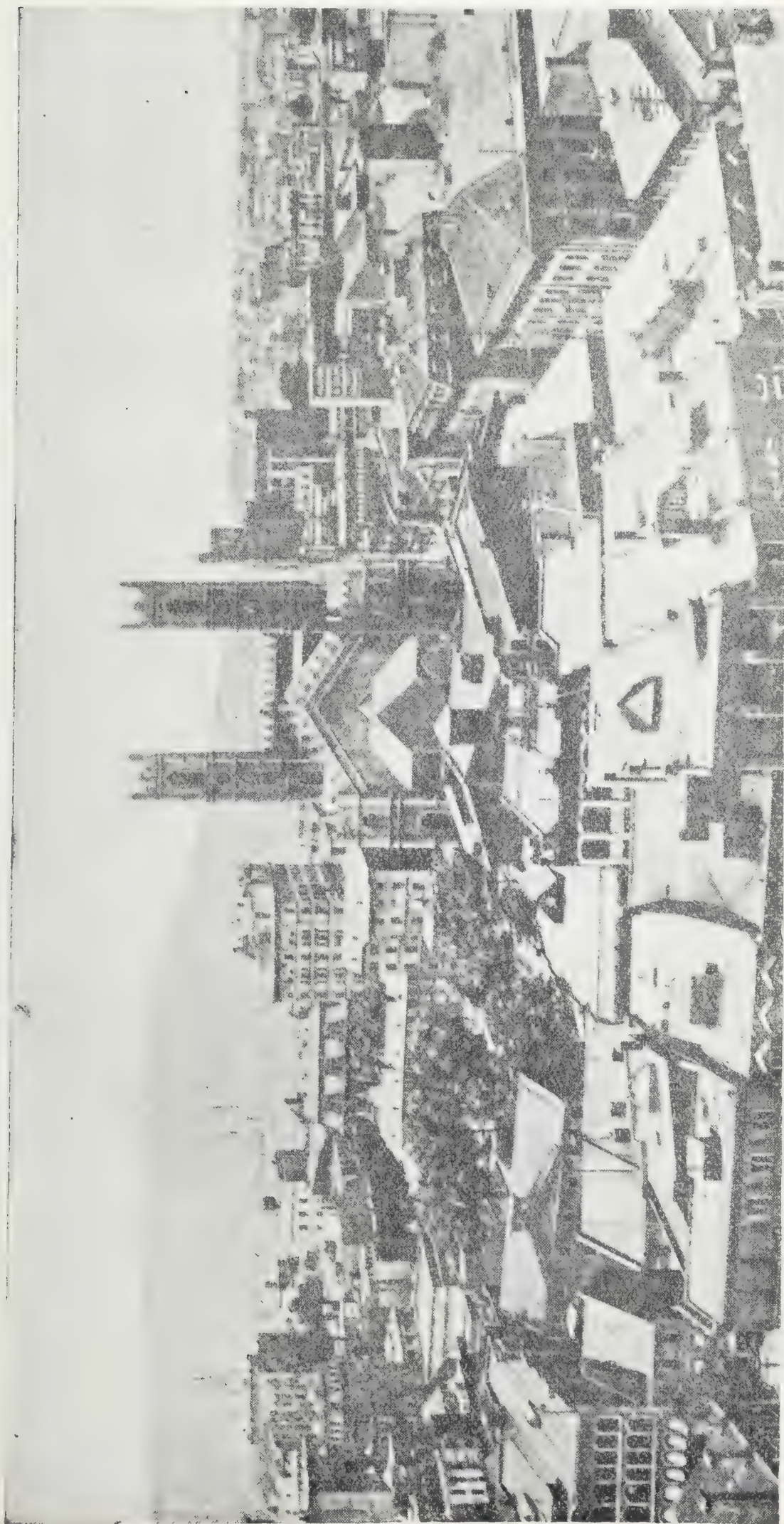
can only enter and leave in one direction, no turning round. This, no doubt, greatly facilitates the traffic control, which is well done by the police. Two fine churches, supposed to be small replicas of St. Peter's (Rome) and Notre Dame (Paris) are beautifully constructed, but the originals will not suffer by comparison.

THE DELEGATES.

Naturally, our first call was on Lord Atholstan, the chairman of the Canadian press—our hosts. As we had met him (then Sir Hugh Graham) at the first conference it was mutually pleasing to renew our old acquaintance. Later we saw Lord and Lady Burnham, Sir Gilbert Parker, Mr. Donald, and many others of the Canadian press who attended with us the 1909 conference, but the majority of the English delegates were new to us, also Mr. Crosbie Rolls, of Ceylon, and Mr. Darbyshire. Hon. J. W. Kirwan, of West Australia, was the only Australian representative who was with us at the last gathering.

Another very pleasant surprise we got when Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Hammond, our old Tasmanian friends, joined us here, and made our sojourn the more enjoyable, and we also had the pleasure of later seeing a great deal more of them in New York, where they live. The imparting of information about their native home and their many friends was mutually agreeable.

We had an early opportunity of examining the programme and itinerary in detail, which our hosts had prepared for us, and the sheaf of invitations which awaited us—official and private—was rather disconcerting. The wonder was how such a "delightful" ordeal could be gone through without requisitioning the doctors and nurses, which very thoughtfully our guests had arranged to accompany the party. I suggested to one of the committee that there was one oversight—no undertaker had been appointed! However, though we were not entirely free from sickness and accidents, it is gratifying to be able, now the conference is over, to record such services were not required.



A GLIMPSE OF MONTREAL.

THE FIRST ENTERTAINMENT.

The first night's summons to the delegates at Montreal was to be prepared next day for a motor-drive through the city and its environs, and afterwards to lunch with the civic authorities in the fine pavilion at Mount Royal. There was a big crowd of officials and representative people, and the utmost cordiality prevailed. The usual speeches of welcome and acknowledgment followed.

On leaving the mount some of the delegates drove to the McGill University,

worth going hundreds of miles to witness. He was longing to be once more of this party, but his medical man forbade it. With all good reciprocal wishes we parted, in the hope of some day renewing our delightful friendship.

A GREAT BANQUET.

The first big banquet of the tour, given by Lord Atholstan at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, was magnificent and sumptuous. The decorations and music, as well as the bill of fare, could not



MONTREAL.

a special convocation being held to confer complimentary honours upon some of the members—why, was a mystery to most of us. Others, including Mr. Kirwan, my wife and self, visited a private hospital, where our dear old friend, George Ham, of the C.P. Railway who was the guide of the 1909 party from Vancouver to Quebec—our Fidus Achates—was temporarily laid aside, and we were anxious to call and see him. The smile of gratification which radiated his bronzed old face as he recognised us was

easily be eclipsed. A special feature of the decorations was the display of flags of the Empire, which were beautifully reflected during the evening in all their glory on a large illuminated square block of ice, surmounted by the "Union Jack," which, by the aid of an electric appliance, kept shimmering during the evening, to the delight of the enthusiastic guests. Over a hundred of the leading public men, as well as all the male delegates, and many United States leading editors, were present.

Some of the speeches, all Imperial in their tone, including Lord Burnham's, Sir John Willison's, Mr. Leacock's were excellent, and the greatest enthusiasm characterised the function. The ladies of the party, who had been delightfully entertained at dinner at Mount Royal Club by Lady Atholstan, were provided with seats in the gallery overlooking us to hear the speeches, etc.

TRADE WITH AUSTRALIA.

During our stay in Montreal I had several opportunities of discussing commercial matters with leading business

ally have their steamers coming direct to Tasmania. In meetings with commercial and shipping men seeking information as to the prospects of doing business with Australia, naturally the paper supply—or shortage—engrossed much of our time. How to overcome the difficulties which at present beset us was the big problem to be solved. At present it is very nebulous.

DEPARTURE FOR OTTAWA.

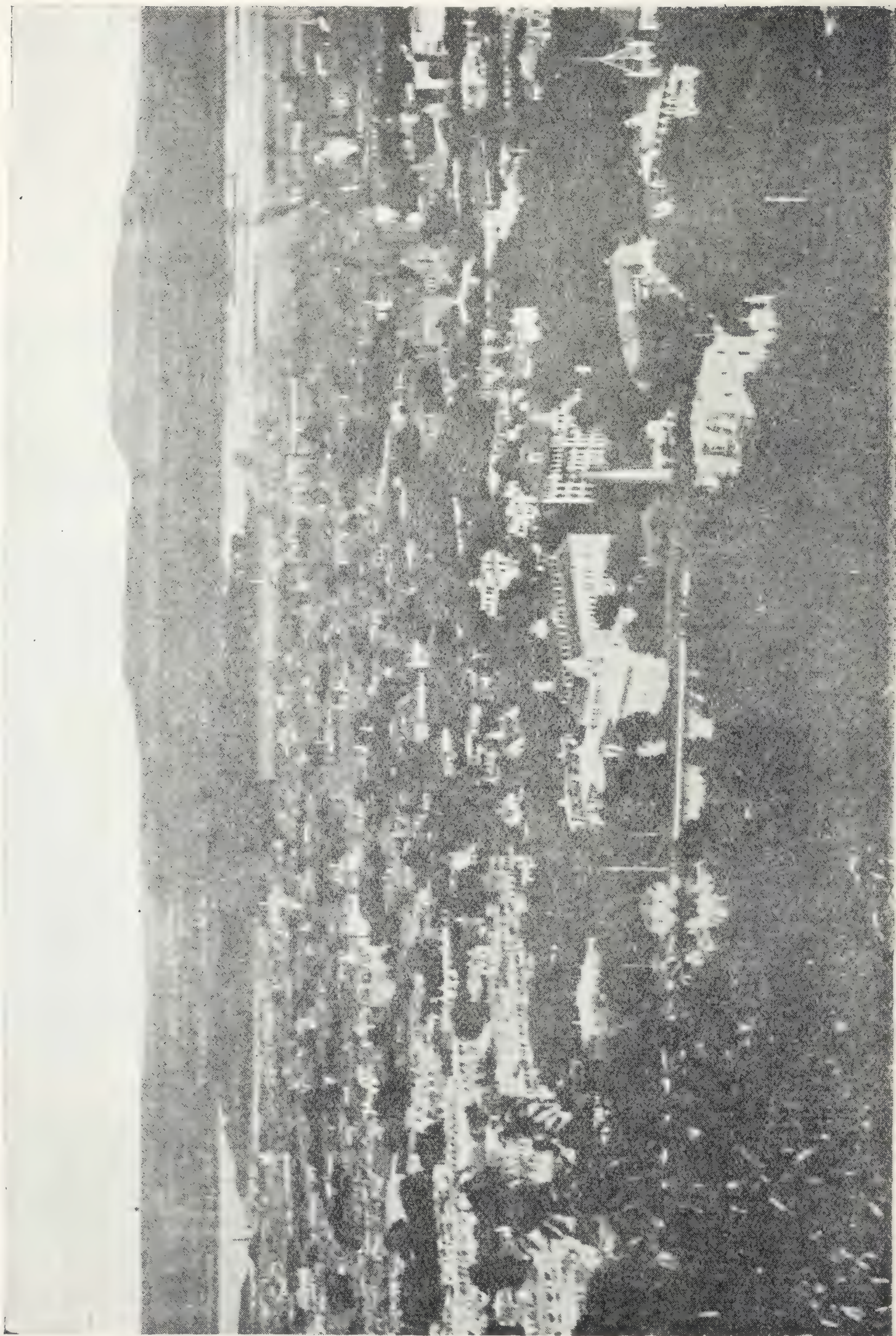
Next morning, after a special inspection of the port and its shipping facili-



TOBOGGANING AT MT. ROYAL PARK, MONTREAL.

people, and in an interview with Mr. R. R. Teakle, the manager of the Canadian Government Mercantile Marine, to whom I supplied a lot of information, contained in public documents, about the trade, exports, and imports of Tasmania and our ports, I found that there was a great desire to extend their shipping relations with Australia and Tasmania. Experiments were being made, and if encouragement justified, we might occasion-

ties, we were entertained at luncheon by the Canadian Club, when the usual complimentary speeches were indulged in, and after 3 p.m. (daylight saving time here also), a move on had to be made, and our luggage had to be packed and sent to our trains, en route for Ottawa, the seat of Government of the Canadian Dominion. There were two trains—ours was No. 2—one leaving half an hour after the other.



A GLIMPSE OF MONTREAL.

MACDONALD AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Our first stoppage after leaving Montreal was at St. Anne's, where the Dominion Agricultural Macdonald College, which is a college of McGill University, is situated, and we had every opportunity of inspecting this big institution, with its fine buildings, and the beautiful lands (nearly 800 acres) on which the property stands. The splendid lawns and recreation grounds, for both sexes, the experimental plots for grains, grasses, and farm crops, as well as the horticultural and poultry departments, and the stock farm, one realises the immense cost—which I did not get—it must be to keep this fine institution going. It is for the advancement of education, especially the interests and needs of the rural districts. We saw some of the stud stock, fine poultry, etc. The cultivation results, judging by the exhibits of farm produce, were very satisfactory. Some of the fruits—apples and small fruits—were excellent specimens. Indian corn, of which many specimens were seen, is greatly grown all over Canada. Much is used for ensilage, but thousands of acres are cultivated for table consumption, and is highly appreciated. It was a most interesting and instructive visit. We had an immense assemblage at the sumptuous afternoon tea, including the Vice-Chancellor (Sir Arthur Currie) and other prominent public men and their wives. The grounds are admirably suited for such a function, and the rays of the sun were nicely tempered by some large umbrageous trees. The gathering was most enjoyable.

Soon we rejoined our trains, en route to Ottawa. Dinner was served on the train in excellent style, and about 9 p.m., after a run through good pastoral country, we arrived at our destination, and made our way through a marble tunnel from the railway to the palatial Chateau Laurier Hotel, where all the party were housed. It may be noted here that conductors always took charge of our luggage, which was generally sent up to our respective rooms soon after our arrival. Every detail to save trouble and inconvenience was carried out. Indeed, we were everywhere most splendidly treated. My wife had some beautiful flowers sent her, and an immense box of chocolates, by C.P.R. officials, so she was well favoured. The day had been very hot, and the travellers were tired out, and were glad to avail themselves of the luxurious apartments prepared for them.

THE CONFERENCE.

The actual business of the conference commenced next day, Thursday, August 8, and was continued till Saturday. The

meetings were held in the Dominion Parliamentary Buildings, which are still under reconstruction after the great fire which partially destroyed them. There was a full attendance of the delegates, as well as many of Canada's most prominent public men, including the Governor-General (the Duke of Devonshire), the Prime Minister (Hon. J. Meighan), the leader of the Opposition (Mr. McKenzie Wood), and several members of the Ministry. After very interesting addresses of welcome from the Governor-General, supported by the Prime Minister and the leader of the Opposition, cable messages were read from the King, the Prime Minister, and other distinguished people wishing that the expectation of this great conference and its efforts to advance Imperial interests would be fully realised. Lord Burnham was unanimously elected chairman, and gave an interesting review of the work of the Empire Press Union from its inception, and urged the desirableness of extending its operations and increasing the membership. The very important subject of the cable service and the necessity, in the general interest, to reduce the cost of cables radios, etc., and increase its facilities, was most exhaustively dealt with, and a unanimous decision came to to urge upon the different Governments and the cable companies to co-operate in assuring an early recognition of the proposals. The Empire Press Union will as soon as possible bring these matters under the notice of those who exercise the control of these great interests. As a corollary to this, the postage on letters and newspapers was discussed, and a resolution in favour of urging reduction was unanimously approved. Of course, these concessions will mean a subsidy from the British and other Governments interested, which should be forthcoming. As I anticipate that full reports of these proceedings have already been published, it is only necessary to say that if these concessions are given the whole community will be advantaged. Business men as well as the press will highly appreciate them.

PAPER SUPPLIES.

Other subjects dealt with were the paper supply and the bad treatment of the Australian press through Canadian control being too favourable to American rather than Imperial interests. But this is a matter affecting newspaper people mostly.

We had several most informative addresses on the paper supply from experts, who had been invited to attend the conference, and these dealt more exhaustively with the subject. It was quite evident that Canada, which is the principal source of pulp supply, is being exploited

by Americans, who, besides buying the raw material, are erecting mills in Canada for ulterior purposes. However, so strong a case has been put up for the Empire press that we were pleased to learn that Canadian mills are diverting 30,000 tons for Australia and New Zealand next year from the United States, which should relieve the anxiety of newspaper proprietors, but will not lead to much reduction in price, at all events for a long time. The cost of oil and other essentials, wages, freights, and general charges, have increased so enormously that from conversations I had with those who control Canadian paper production and export, and later with Mr. Dodge, the president of the great American combine in New York, we need not expect much concession in prices for a year or two. Several new mills are being erected, but they are most costly, and take much time, but may eventually relieve the position, though the great combines are so wealthy that the new ventures may later be induced to come into the swim. The erection of a mill or two in Australia and importing the pulp has been discussed, but at present it is much in nubibus. Papers here all charge 5 to 10 cents a copy (2½d. to 5d.), so it looks as if the days of penny papers are gone.

THE CENSORSHIP.

Other matters, such as condemning the absurd censorship, so abused during the war, and insistence on the full liberty of the press for the benefit of a free people, came on for animated discussion, and doubtless the result of the abuse of power, which we had cause to complain of during the war, will have a beneficial effect on the future should, which all would deplore, there ever be another great war. Some excellent addresses on Government and the Empire by Sir George Foster, one of Canada's foremost orators, and one by Mr. Defoe, an eloquent press writer, were most impressive, and elicited unanimous approval.

What I have outlined here is little more than a minute record of some of the leading subjects dealt with, from a press point of view; any big questions having any political bearing were, of course, tabooed. The debates during the few days of this important conference were fully attended, and the excellent reports in the press, which were posted to Australia, enable the interested to realise the earnestness of those who, in every proper and legitimate way, were desirous of cementing the ties of friendship and goodwill amongst the representatives of the all-powerful Imperial Press, and assisting them in their efforts to promote the peace and prosperity of all parts of our great Empire. It was urged that upon the press should the responsibility

rest of urging on the representatives in the different parts of the Empire the necessity of having a thorough knowledge and understanding of each other, without which there could be no community of interest or unity of action.

VARIOUS FUNCTIONS.

During the conference in Ottawa there were many very enjoyable social gatherings, to which delegates and their wives were invited. The delightful motor drives around the city and pretty suburbs, through the well-kept parks with their dustless roads, and along the banks of the River Ottawa were much enjoyed. The camera fiend was always in evidence, and some really excellent cinematographs were taken, and a circular movable camera produced some splendid presentations of the whole delegation, also an interesting group of what was called "The Old Contemptibles," meaning the few of us who took part in the first conference in 1909, with the Duke of Devonshire in the centre, as he had entertained us all, when in England, at his home at Chatsworth-park.

In our last afternoon at Ottawa all attended a most pleasant garden party, where we were right royally entertained, at Government House, which is charmingly situated, and the grounds very attractively and ornately laid out. It was a very hot afternoon, and the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire very graciously and considerately received on the lawn. The fine shade from the lofty trees and shrubberies offered good protection from the scorching rays of the sun. Amongst others we met were Lord Neville, who is still very lame from his old accident. He was very solicitous about many Australian and Tasmanian friends and sportsmen. We also met Mr. Fielding, still a member of the Parliament, but now second in Opposition.

The ladies of the party were guests one day at the Ottawa Golf Club for luncheon, and had a glorious time. My wife met some old friends, who took charge of her, and she was exceptionally fortunate in the extra attention she received then, and during our stay at Ottawa.

After the function at Government House the time was occupied in packing and preparing for our next move on, which was at 10 p.m. for Toronto, en route for Niagara. This was all hurry and bustle, and the weather being excessively hot the work was anything but agreeable.

OTTAWA.

Before continuing the notes on our travels, I should like to say a few words about the Federal capital of Canada, Ottawa, with its population of about 100,000. It is

most picturesquely situated on the Ottawa River, one of the largest streams in Canada, and certainly can boast of some splendid buildings. Parliament House and the Public Library stand out in great prominence, and imposing banks and public offices face the reserve area, and are most pretentious. By the by, I had to visit one of these banks, and was astonished, when interviewing the chief accountant, to find him a young Tasmanian. I am sorry I have lost his name, but he was pleased to meet me and introduced me to the

Government buildings overshadow all. The timber is a great industry, and a host of saw mills are continually at work, the timber being floated down the rivers to the mills. The Ottawa paper mills also occupy a prominent position on the river.

THE SPEED LIMIT.

I was nearly overlooking a political lunch some of us were invited to at the Country Club. Another Australian and two others drove out with the Prime Minister in his car. The chauffeur, who



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS AND POST OFFICE, OTTAWA.

manager, who, like most other Canadians, was very desirous of showing us special attention, but unfortunately our time was so fully occupied that we were unable to avail ourselves of the much proffered hospitality. The Ottawa people, who think theirs the most picturesque capital in the world, are justly proud of their fine city, with its majestic structures, fine hotels and shops, excellent drive ways, and beautiful parks and private residences. Of course, the stately

had not long come back from the war, was the most daring and reckless driver I ever sat behind. Sixty miles an hour, around obstacles and over corners, were nothing to him. I was relieved when we got safely to our destination. The outing was all right and so was the luncheon. Many Canadian Senators and Representatives gathered here, and we spent a merry time. I think it is certain that I will not, under similar conditions, desire to drive with the Prime

Minister of Canada again, at all events until he changes his chauffeur or chains him down a bit.

A big crowd saw us off at the station and we steamed away from Ottawa, with good wishes from all and regrets of many, including ourselves.

TORONTO AND NIAGARA.

We slept on the train very comfortably and arrived early in the morning at Toronto, after an early breakfast on the train. Then we transferred from the train to the s.s. Cayuga, on our way to visit Niagara Falls. There was an immense crowd of people on the boat, and dozens of motor-cars belonging to tourists, who were bound for different places along the Lake Ontario. This is a great picnic day for Toronto people, and Sunday was the special day's outing, and they certainly made it a real day of pleasure.

NIAGARA RIVER.

The trip over Lake Ontario to Queenstown, en route to Niagara Falls, was a pleasant change after so much heat and train travelling, and notwithstanding the very crowded steamer, was enjoyed by us all. On landing at Queenstown we have many miles to journey by electric tram, which skirts the Niagara River in United States territory. Ample opportunity is afforded to view the wide, turbulent stream, its whirlpools and rapids, as it surges and roars down to the lake. The sight is very grand and awe-inspiring, and one wonders how foolhardy some adventurous spirits are who vainly brave these irresistible, rushing waters, always with the same inevitable fatal result—oblivion.

The population of this most interesting district has increased amazingly on both sides of the river, which is crossed by two most massive bridges, for railway and other traffic, which join Canada and the States. On arrival at Niagara Falls, overlooked by the beautiful Queen Victoria-park, the party was met by the Commissioners and the Mayoral officials, and first were conveyed to Brock's monument by electric tram, on the Canadian side of the river, which rushes onwards hundreds of feet below us. This is said to be one of the most revered spots in Canadian history, as on Queenstown Heights a great historic battle was fought in 1812, when the British Governor, Sir Isaac Brock, with Canadian troops, stormed and vanquished the American troops, but lost his life in the engagement. The monument perpetuates his valour and his memory.

NIAGARA FALLS.

Few literary people have had the temerity to attempt to describe mighty

Niagara. I will not try. Words cannot adequately picture the might and majesty of these inspiring falls—

"Here speaks the voice of God—let man be dumb,
Nor with his vain aspiring—hither come."

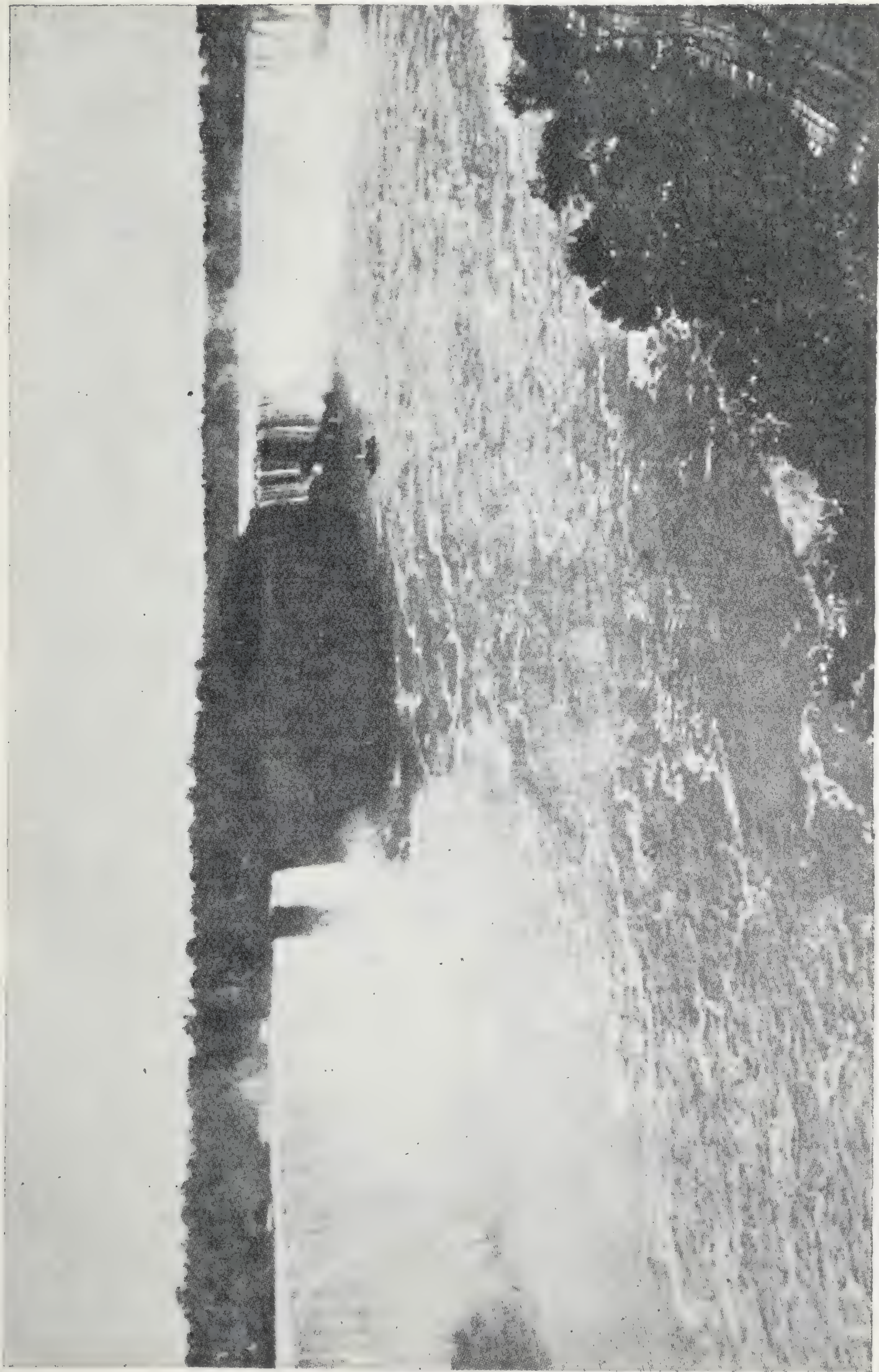
Thousands of visitors from all parts congregate here on pleasure and admiration bent. Overloaded motor-cars and pedestrians galore affect this attractive and beautiful resort every day. A magnificent, extensive view of the picturesque country from Brock's eminence is obtained, and the grounds around the historical monument are delightfully laid out, while the shelters from the native and imported well grown trees, with the velvety lawns, were patronised by old and young.

On our return from the Heights, we were most hospitably entertained at luncheon by the Park Commissioners, and some very complimentary and eulogistic speeches marked the delightful impressions made while gazing at the rapturous scene facing us. The electric power plants, and immense houses, as well as the intakes were then visited, and everything explained by the engineers. Some of the delegates had a view of the falls from the Maid of the Mist, which is reached by a "down elevator." The falls looked as grand and beautiful as ever, but the works have been greatly extended since our previous visit. Naturally, there is great rivalry between the Canadian Fall, 3,000 feet wide, and the American, 1,100 feet wide, as to which of the two falls is the grander; but they are both so beautiful that it is better to let the rivalry continue. All that have not seen, have read or heard of the magnitude and beauty of this wonderful place, so I am merely chronicling this as one of the great sites the delegates were invited to enjoy under such delightful conditions, and were loud in their thanks for the opportunity afforded.

At night, after dinner, which we had at the Clifton Hotel, where we stayed for the night, we viewed the falls illuminated, and a scene of sublime grandeur met our gaze.

BY ROAD TO HAMILTON.

Our trains, which carried us from Toronto, had to be boarded by 9 a.m. next day, which necessitated an early breakfast. We then proceeded to a place called Grimsby, where a heavy rain disconcerted us, and as we were invited to motor from this station to Hamilton on the way to Toronto, the outlook of a 60 miles' drive did not look very alluring. We motored through this great fruit country, and the orchards and farms along the route were well worth seeing, and



NIAGARA FALLS.

we appreciated the baskets of fruit which each member of the party was presented with, consisting of apples, apricots, cherries, and plums. This acceptable present caused us to have a much better appreciation of the products of these parts. The pleasure of the drive through this pretty country, and along the shore of Lake Ontario, was somewhat discounted by the rain necessitating the motors being partly closed in, thereby greatly narrowing our view; but one could judge from the cultivation and the dwellings that this is a very prolific and prosperous district.

Eventually we came to Hamilton, and few of us expected to find so large and important a manufacturing centre here, with a population of 117,000. Steel and other big factories are well established here, and, much to our amazement, were informed that nearly all the capital invested comes from the United States. We saw through several of these hives of industry, and were then driven to Kingsthorpe, the summer home of Mr. W. J. Southam, a delightfully situated spot, where we participated in a sumptuously prepared luncheon, laid out in a large marquee. Notwithstanding the prohibition craze, the goods that the gods gave us were freely appreciated, and, judging from the clatter and noise that prevailed, the tongues seemed to have been more loosened than usual. It was a great gathering, and we met, beside, our genial host and his charming wife—most cheerful and pleasant people. Some special vitality seemed to be infused into the speakers, who were anything but lugubrious on this occasion. What was the cause?

Continuing our motor drive, we completed our day's outing along the boulevards of Lake Ontario by landing at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, at about 6 p.m.

BACK AT TORONTO.

Preparations had then to be made to attend a special dinner, as guests of the Mayor and Corporation of Toronto, which was a very swagger affair, and passed off with great eclat. The Mayor (Mr. Church) was a great host, and, though there was nothing very sensational in the speeches, we were all well pleased and especially satisfied when our long and delightful day came to an end, and enabled us to seek the seclusion which all longed for.

THE FIREMEN'S REUNION.

I should like to record that on our previous visit to Toronto, a couple of weeks earlier, the hotel was crowd-

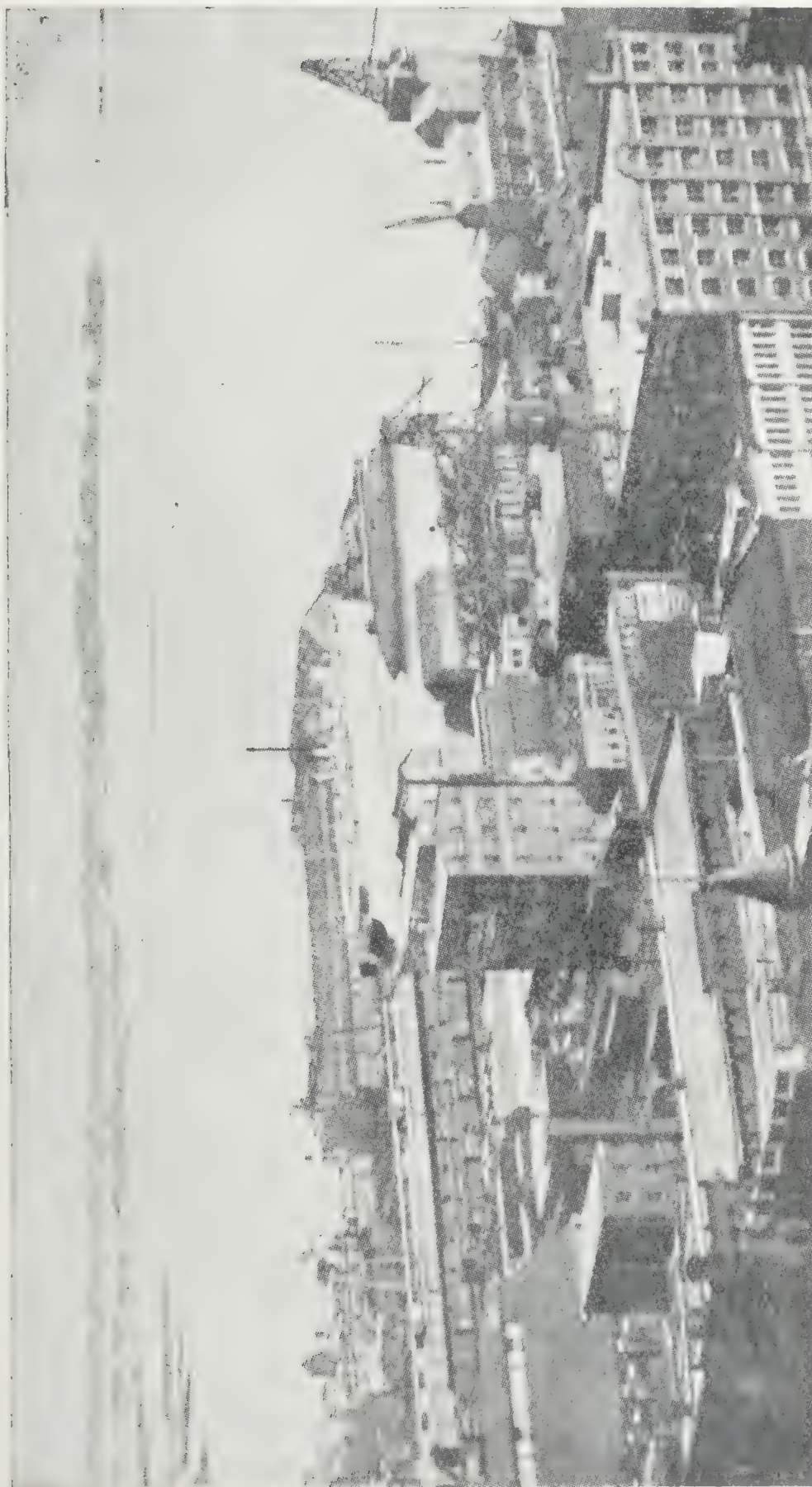
ed with firemen, who came from all parts of Canada for their periodical reunion. They were a strapping lot of fine fellows in full, loud regalia, or uniform, some well bejewelled. The place was not a haven of rest during their stay. They were out to enjoy themselves, and if enjoyment was to be gauged by noise and merriment, they had their fill. The echoes of the big brass band which heralded their presence, and frequently played in the lounge of the hotel, reverberated through the building, and shook it almost to its foundations. Still, this was music! We saw some of their good drills and exhibitions of smart work in the exhibition grounds, which front the lake.

FUNCTIONS AT TORONTO.

Our return visit to Toronto was only for a few days, but, apart from the further attention extended by old friends, the programme for the delegates was a bit strenuous. Still, all struggled through. On the first morning the Corporation provided motor-cars, and the city and environs were all seen to the best advantage. The beauties of the suburbs and the substantial nature of the public buildings, the University, and business premises came in for much admiration. About midday we all assembled at Hart House, one of the colleges, as guests at luncheon of the Board of Governors of the University, where the Chancellor welcomed us, and Lord Burnham and others responded; but, owing to the wretched acoustic properties of the fine hall, beyond those who sat at the head tables, most of the eloquence would have been lost to the world had the reporters been absent!

TORONTO GOLF LINKS.

A special convocation was held after luncheon at the University hall, when three more of the delegates had complimentary honours conferred upon them. Why, except to honour the press, no one ventured an explanation, or inquired who had the selection of the honoured. Many of us afterwards motored out to the Toronto Golf Club—a most lovely place—some miles out of the city. The links are excellently arranged, with undulations, long drives, fine putting greens, while the well-kept grounds surprised our golfers, of whom there were many. It was a delightful, warm afternoon, and there was a large assemblage of local people of both sexes, who were most cordial and solicitous for the comfort of all. It was pleasing to meet amongst the visitors some who were good enough to remember our stay amongst them in 1909, and were very complimentary in reminding us of former experiences and impressions. Mr.



EAST END OF TORONTO HARBOUR.

Kirkpatrick, the president of the club, was a host in himself. We were all invited to dine here. The club-house, which is capacious and residential, lends itself admirably to all hospitalities. Week-enders affect the club, and when tired of play, enjoy their smokes and water and soda (prohibition drinks) either in the verandahs or under the umbrageous trees, inhale the oxygen, and gratify their visionary organs as they gaze on the picturesque surroundings of this favoured spot. We all thoroughly enjoyed this outing, which was a gratifying relief from the hurry and bustle which we had been experiencing. Late in the evening we returned to our hotel, carrying away pleasing reminiscences of the hospitality of the members of the club, and of a well spent afternoon, and evening.

SEEING TORONTO.

Early next morning the delegates were invited by the Toronto Harbour Commissioners to inspect the works completed, and those contemplated, which, besides improving shipping facilities, included reclamation of some hundreds of acres of land and breakwaters, and the extension of the fine boulevards of over ten miles. The cost would be over 25,000,000 dollars. The trip around the harbour in their very spanking steamer on a lovely day was thoroughly appreciated by the big crowd of visitors, which included, besides the press people, many leading citizens and their wives.

When inspecting the other improvements on the reclamation areas, we were greatly impressed by a Bascul Bridge, at the crossing of the Don Channel, which joins the main entrance to the industrial district. This bridge is operated by hydro-electric power (municipally owned) and takes 250 horse power on peak load. The bridge is 350 tons in weight and has 120 feet span and 66 feet roadway, which is laid with two lines of street railway track. Roadways are of reinforced concrete on an 8 inch base of broken stone, and when heavy traffic demands will be finished with 4 inch surface of close cut granite set. When working it, the barrier is dropped at each end of the bridge and makes contact for the next operation. The electric whistle is then blown as a warning that the bridge is going to be raised, the switch giving current to open the lock is next turned, and following that the lifting switch is brought into contact. When the bridge reaches an elevation of 60 degrees it is in equilibrium, and another switch must be turned to provide the power to lift the bridge to its full height, on reaching which the power is automatically cut off and the bridge cannot be lowered until another warning whistle is blown. The reversing operation to close the bridge is

absolutely automatic in its operation, and no move can be made until the previous move is completed. (The above information is somewhat technical, but was given to me by one of the engineers.)

We saw the bridge in operation and were very pleased at the expeditious manner in which it was opened and closed. It appeared to me just the kind of bridge that might be required at Bridgewater or other places on the Derwent where there is a lot of shipping and it had to be opened continuously and expeditiously. I believe this class of bridge is rather costly.

In connection with the reclamation works, it might be interesting to state the ground is leased on twenty-one years' terms, renewable in perpetuity; the rental is 5 per cent. on the valuation per acre; when renewed rental is fixed on the new valuation. Lessees pay the taxes and local improvement taxes, which include roadways, pavements, sidewalks, and public utilities, and are based on the cost of the work done and paid for over a term of years according to the life of the debentures, which apparently are issued to cover the cost. Land valued at the present time is 20,000 to 100,000 dollars per acre, according to location—that is, dock proper or inland property. All industrial locations can have railway sidings. Train leads to sidings are controlled by the Harbour Commissioners. Sidings on private property are paid for by the lessee; that is, the lessee pays cash for all perishable material, and 5 per cent. interest on non-wearable materials, such as rails, spikes, rail joints, etc. The maintenance is performed by the Commissioners, and charged to the lessee.

The hydro-electric power ranges from 13.50 dollars to 18 dollars per horse-power per annum. The buildings erected for the 24 industries already established are valued at 5,000,000 dollars, and there are approximately 4,000 hands employed. The boulevards which I have already referred to elsewhere as being constructed around the lake join the parks, and will prove a great acquisition to the other attractive drives of the city.

We landed for lunch at the Royal Canadian Yacht Club House, which has a lovely outlook, and is surrounded by tennis courts, bowling greens, and croquet lawns, while the flowers and shrubs were something to remember. The place was quite fascinating in its loveliness. Evidently some most tasteful and enthusiastic admirers of the beauties of Nature have control here. The situation is superb, and it is little wonder that such an institution should be popular and well supported. A most pleasant hour or two was enjoyed here. A *recherche*



YONGE-STREET, TORONTO.



DREDGES AT WORK IN NORTH PART OF HARBOUR, TORONTO.



STRAUSS BASCULE BRIDGE, TORONTO

luncheon was presided over by Mr. Smith (chairman), with Mayor Church supporting him. Complimentary toasts and acknowledgments were indulged in, and the Commissioners were congratulated upon the forethought and enterprise, and the great advantages which must result from the fine improvements. Introductions on the lawn and viewing the surroundings filled in the time very agreeably, till a reminder was given that another engagement called us away. Reluctantly we left this charming place to return to the hotel, and make preparations to again move on by train to the next trysting place. It was at this outing I met several more prominent Masons, and was sorry not to be able to avail myself of their pressing invitations to remain and enjoy a fraternal welcome—another pleasure deferred.

Here we had to leave the delegates for a time, having arranged to proceed to New York and Chicago, hoping to rejoin the party about Banff or Lake Louise.

CUSTOMS AND HEALTH REGULATIONS.

As our experiences with Customs and immigration officers were many and varied, it might be informative to travellers to learn what all have to go through when passing from one country to another. The visit of the health officer and his shadow—the representative of the immigration department—is the bete noire of passengers. The inspection by the doctors on the steamers seems a perfect farce. The number of passengers is reported, and the medico proceeds to check this by having all the crowd assembled on the decks in single file, and generally after several ineffectual attempts, some one or more not turning up in time, we are passed. If any reported illness, such as measles, is known, one's arms are bared and examined, and invariably, after an hour or two's delay, we are freed from his foils, only to fall into the hands of the immigration officer, who demands your passport, and, in some

cases, extra particulars, as to your age, height, colour of your eyes, and where your father and mother are, and where you expect to be or go, and when you leave again, or other equally inquisitive and embarrassing questions, to which answers, fortunately, are not given on oath.

In America soon it will be very difficult to get through. What with poll tax, vaccination, and other vexations, the States will be a place to avoid. Why do not Australians retaliate, and impose similar restrictions on Uncle Sam's people? I had a bit of bother going to New York, as my passport had not been viséd by the American Consul, but eventually—I suppose I looked innocent and harmless—I was allowed to pass.

KEEPING THE COUNTRY "DRY."

The Customs generally were very good to us, especially in Canada. Our luggage was all branded "Imperial Press Conference," which acted like an "open sesame," and we got cleared right away. In the United States we were not so much respected, but, after all, the C.O. told you to open your baggage, and asked if it contained any spirits or deleterious compounds, and you replied in the negative, and he was satisfied. One's friends, if any, then retired to their compartment, and producing from the hip pocket a small flask or thermos, took a small dose therefrom, medicinally, to soothe the nerves after this ordeal. There was nothing wicked in this denial, be-

cause it was not in the baggage. That is how people quieten their consciences. Such is the humbug of prohibition.

It is a sensible decision the people of British Columbia have just arrived at regarding the prohibition craze, because it was so much evaded. "To be thus is nothing, but to be safely thus!"

You are wanted in room 842, is a polite invitation to call and see a sick friend! If you are fearful of infection you do not go, but if you do go, your visit is very short. Always take a peppermint or other disinfectant with you, or if you meet a "gent in blue" ask him to see you through! 'Tis true, and pity 'tis 'tis true!

THE LUXURY TAX.

Thinking of Customs reminds me of another irritating recent imposition in the form of a luxury tax. Nearly every article up to a certain value—say five dollars—is subject to this tax. Having made your purchase you reckon your outlay is equal, say, to ten pounds, for which you plank down your dollars. You are then politely reminded that the five or ten per cent. tax has also to be paid, which, with a bad grace, you "fork" out. I suppose the Government get all these extra collections, but I would like to have as my salary what is not paid over. All people are quite honest and good intentioned, but mistakes and oversights will occur. A regular E. and O.E. is doubtless permitted!

A HOLIDAY IN THE UNITED STATES

NEW YORK.

Having arranged to considerably reduce the luggage for our week or two in the United States, and despatched all large trunks to Vancouver, we left Toronto for New York by 5 p.m. train, and arrived in this great city at 8 a.m. next day. Several of our friends came to wish us bon voyage, and "au revoir." By the by, the latest American farewell is S.Y.L. (meaning "see you later"). Not bad! We had thought of going by train to Albany, and taking a steamer down the River Hudson to New York, but as this would have occupied another day we reluctantly had to abandon the idea.

As most of the travelling was by night one could only get a glimpse of some of the well-known cities en route. It was a very hot night, and as our destination was approached we began to realise the heat scare that was always being paraded before us. It was not a myth. The entrance to the city, over an elevated line, is not picturesque, and the rows of lofty buildings, in narrow streets, do not

impress travellers, and it is soon realised that the first mile or two is through what we would call slums, or the poorer parts. The family washing hung from the upper windows, while the not too cleanly busy streets below give an idea of the crowds of humanity housed in these not too healthy looking quarters. The terminus is reached through a very long tunnel. After passing over a magnificent bridge, which spans the fine Hudson River, there are dozens of similar bridges connecting the island with the mainland, New York being built on the Island of Manhattan.

PALATIAL HOTELS.

On arrival we had a short tunnel walk to the Biltmore Hotel, adjoining the railway station. This is one of the palatial hotels of New York, of which there are dozens, over 12 to 20 storeys high, with about one hundred large and well-furnished rooms on each floor, bathroom and conveniences and dressroom attached to each room; twin bedsteads, couch, writing desk, electric light and telephone,

and heating pipes for winter use. Several fast electric elevators are kept going all day. In the vestibule are paper stalls, tobacconists, flowers, sweets, and telegraphic offices, which receive messages and cables for all parts of the world. The lounge, smoking-rooms, drawing-rooms, and dining halls, grill-rooms, tea-rooms fill up an immense space. Japanese boys are employed as baggage porters, and their name is legion. The pages are a great institution, message boys in livery, who pass through the hotel, downstairs, shouting out the name of the person sought, but the twang and pronunciation make it very difficult for "foreigners" like us to understand. I was called

tra charges are now levied to compensate the proprietors for loss on the grog business. Boot cleaning and clothes brushing (valets) work are luxuries and not necessities, and require special recognition. Really, when travelling nowadays a little special polishing outfit should form portion of the baggage, and one should master these accomplishments, especially when going through America, in order to meet these "extras."

BUSTLING CITY AND MOIST.

Although during our short sojourn in New York we made the most of our time, and, thanks to our friends, Mr. Fraser and Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Ham-



FIFTH-AVENUE, NEW YORK.

several times, and invariably had to signal the page to come over to me and interpret what he was calling out. This practice is not singular, for one notices it in all big hotels in Canada and America. Some of these kids make quite big screws, for, of course, the sender pays and the discovered also tips. No thanks are vouchsafed; most casually they pocket the insult.

We had very excellent accommodation, and paid only twelve dollars a day for the privilege of occupying it. Fancy, about £20 a week for one's room only, and a similar amount for two for dining-room expenses. This is also a great prohibition country, and presumably the ex-

mond, saw a great deal more in a week than lots of others, who were not favoured with a cicerone, would in a month, still, it is not my intention to write a history of this wonderful city. One might as well try to describe London and its ramifications, after a few days' visit, as its rival New York, from mere cursory inspection. But what we saw and most impressed us must be briefly recounted and satisfy my friends. Moreover, it would take weeks and volumes to do justice to so great a subject, and as my memory only must be relied upon to give an outline of our experiences, I am afraid that scant justice will be done to my very formidable task.

One of the busiest and most exciting rushing, and bustling of the cities it has been my good fortune to visit is New York. The intense humid heat which prevailed during our stay advantageously reduced my avoirdupois by about ten pounds, though not detectable by those most familiar with me. It is not altogether the heat that is troublesome, but the objectionable continual mopping with one's handkerchiefs, for one is no use—that has to be resorted to to prevent the perspiration oozing into one's boots. It may be healthy, but it is dreadfully uncomfortable. Still, we managed to get through it without any evil result. Those who can, still find more temperate and less trying climates during the summer months, and on that account many letters of introduction were not presented, as the people were avoiding the summer heat.

THE TRAFFIC.

The traffic (trams and railways, steam and electric) is wonderfully well conducted. Overhead trains and street trams, as well as the underground, enable the people to be expeditiously transferred to all parts of this immense city, and at very reasonable cost. Motors in thousands are always in evidence, and some really comfortable one-horse Victoria phaetons, as we call them, were very popular. The arrangement in numbering the streets is, in my opinion, admirable. The numbered streets run from first street to two hundredth street or more, and all run parallel. The cross streets, intersecting them, are mostly called avenues—Fifth Avenue, and so on—so that it is not very difficult, with the bump of locality slightly developed, which in some it is not, to find one's way about. It is much easier than looking for York-street or Wilson-street without the least idea of knowing where to go. If information is sought as to where a certain place is the reply may be five blocks on and turn to the left and two blocks down. It may be clear to the initiated, but was little enlightenment to me. However, as we had generally one of our friends with us it was not often necessary to apply to the obliging policeman. It is easy to lose oneself in this vast place, and most confusing to find one's way in the undergrounds, especially if it is necessary to change trains, as these lines run in all directions. One can readily get over-carried, but an inquisitive tongue eventually enables the required destination to be reached.

DUSTLESS STREETS.

The concrete streets are mostly wide, and, of course, beautifully maintained and dustless, a boon available to all except Australian and Tasmanian cities, but apparently not sought after either

on the ground of economy or lack of enterprise. The initial expense may be heavy, but the comfort and eventual saving, and the benefit from health considerations, would justify an experiment, which could not fail to be appreciated and persevered with. I have been quite envious at times when motoring to find the roads invariably dustproof, a luxury within our reach that should not be idly set aside. Verb. sap.

THE BUILDINGS.

The architecture, on the whole, is most imposing, though the skyscrapers tower so high towards heaven that one is apt to get a crick in the neck if inquisitive enough to try and find the top. I have been up one of twenty storeys to see the Grand Masonic Secretary, and found everyone as contented up there as on the ground floor. The Equitable Building is another of these overawing structures, and its height and size may be realised from the fact that it accommodates about eleven thousand people every day. The cost of land is so enormous—up to 100,000 dollars a foot—that in order to get room and evade the prohibitive price the buildings must go upwards. It is the intention, we heard, of the authorities to limit the heights in the future. Some are already over 40 storeys; indeed, the highest in the world is the Woolmore Building, 57 storeys, and nearly 800ft. high. It is a long way to get up, but needs must, as they say, when the devil drives.

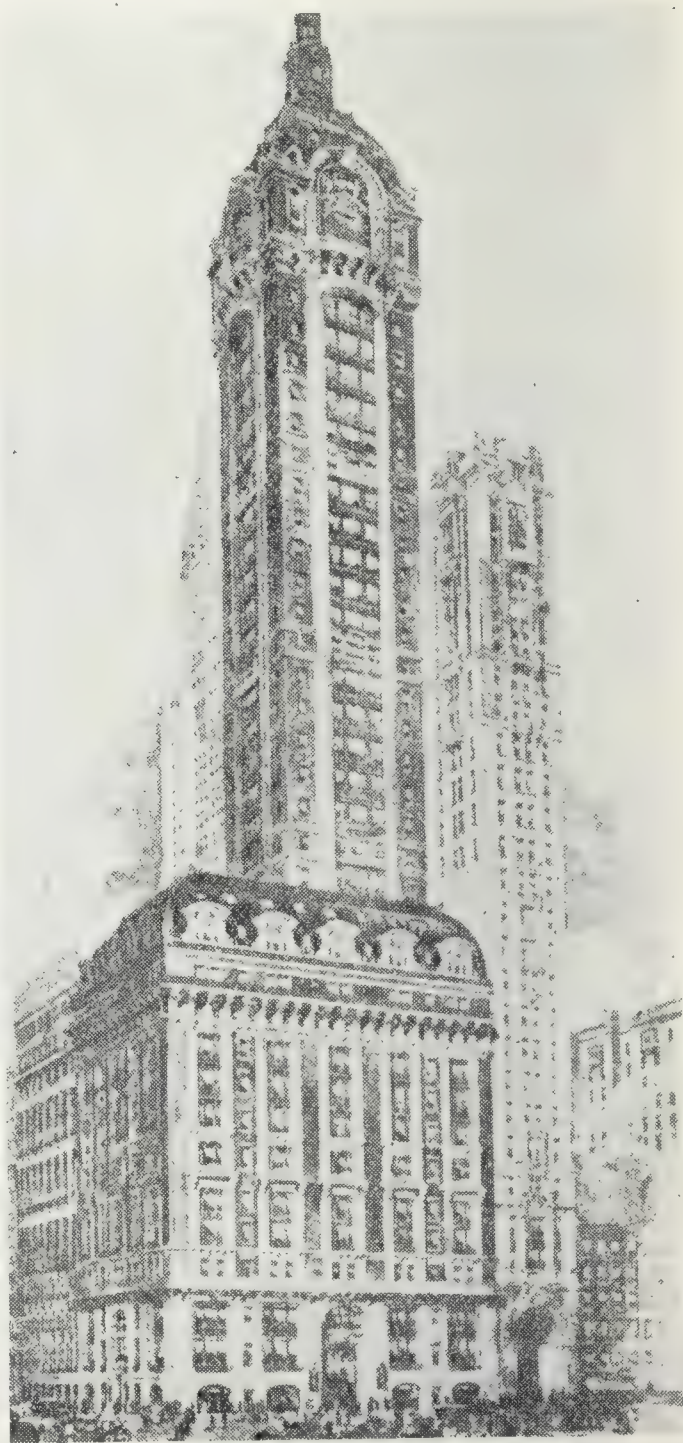
THE TEMPTING SHOP DISPLAYS.

Most of the houses of business, the banks, insurance offices, and shops (stores as they are called) are substantially constructed, and many of them ornamental. The shops or stores are amongst the greatest attractions of New York. The magnificent and alluring window shows attract the attention of the most callous benedict, and women gaze with envious and rapturous eyes on the lovely displays, which eventually lighten poor hubby's pockets, and sometimes create estrangements. Lovely hat, madame; latest Paris fashion, and suits you so charmingly, and the price has been reviewed as the season is far advanced. It was 100 dollars, now it is reduced to 90 dollars. It is irresistible. Very well. Where shall I send it? That sweet gown! Oh, do try it on! It goes beautifully with the hat, and it would be a sin to separate them; reduced also; now 250 dollars; sacrificed! And so on. How angelic you look! It fits as if made for you, and suits your fine figure! Well, it is pay and look pleasant if you can. Mind, this is not my experience, but you have all had a bit of it. Still, avoid the glammers of an insinuating New York milliner.

BUILDINGS IN NEW YORK



MUNICIPAL BUILDING, NEW YORK.

SINGER'S BUILDING, NEW YORK,
47 STOREYS HIGH.

Moral—Hubby: Never go shopping with a lady, but if you do, and she asks you to wait ten minutes, go away and come back as the shop is closing, and you may, if not collapsed, find her coming out with the employees in time for dinner. No wonder hubby sometimes comes home with the milk in the morning! Better pay a pound or so, and go for long motor drives into the country. The temptation is awful, and self-denial in these days impracticable.

Some of these stores occupy whole blocks and employ hundreds of hands, and certainly the displays on half a dozen floors of all kinds of goods are beautifully seductive, and onlookers are invariably most covetous.

The cost of all goods—clothes and ladies' apparel—may be compared with the cost of living in hotels without being affected thereby. Our visit being in the summer time one can only write of the style of dress worn by the every-day folk, as fashion is out of town. The ladies dress rather elaborately and extravagantly, and not always in good taste. One seldom noticed ladies in evening dress at the hotels for dinner, though it was remarked by a cynical person that it was difficult to determine what was or was not evening dress there. Men in evening dress were never conspicuous at hotel dinners as in Australia, but retained the cool and airy costume suitable to the climate, even waistcoats not always being considered essential. The straw hat is the general crown covering. At places of amusement people seem to attend in ordinary every-day attire, the ladies merely removing their hats. Waiters wear evening dress on all occasions. Of course, everything one buys in New York is a bargain. They are only keeping the shops open for the benefit of the employees and health purposes!

THE RESTAURANTS.

The restaurants, of which there are myriads, all seem to do a thriving trade, and the cafeteria are great institutions, quite new to one. You go into the room, and all different kinds of food are being cooked or displayed in front of you. Laden with a tray, plate, and utensils you carry it on from place to place, selecting the food you require—so much each article—which you have put on your plate, and when loaded up sufficiently to satisfy your cravings you display it to the "assessor," pay for it, and retire to one of the numerous tables provided, and go on with your business. Waiting on yourself all the time, and, mirabile dictu, no tip at the end. Of course, I tried it—experience teaches—and I'm satisfied that carrying round a tray, with the risk of capsizing, etc., does not suit my style of beauty, so never again.



WOOLWORTH BUILDING, NEW YORK,
55 STOREYS HIGH.

By the by, the chemists' shops are very mixed affairs. After theatres we could go into one, and, after buying a toothbrush and a box of antibilious pills, would have an iced drink from one of these soda fountains, and a cake or sandwich, which you swallowed at the counter. If a fellow now asks you to come and have a W. and S. here you know it means "ice water and a sandwich," so

beware unless one carries a doctor's certificate, when you may get a real W. and S.

Naturally, we patronised some of the places of amusement—of which there are hundreds of all kinds. The Capitol and the Hippodrome are two most beautiful theatres, and the performances excellent. At the latter the ballets were simply gorgeous, and the hundreds of people on the stage taking part could not fail to impress the large crowd assembled in this beautifully designed and decorated place, which will seat 10,000 people.

Young Geary, a Tasmanian, was singing a prominent part, and was well received, which was very gratifying to us. Charlie Hammond called our attention to him, and I am sorry I was unable to see him, but wrote him a few lines of congratulation.

At another smaller theatre, the Gaiety, not bigger or so nice as ours, we saw Mr. Frank Bacon in "Lightnin." He is the author, and played the title role. He was splendid, but the Australian production on the whole pleased us more. Another theatre we visited was Mr. Henry Miller's, in 43rd-street, where we saw "The Famous Mrs. Fair," with Mr. Miller and Miss Blanche Bates in the principal parts. It was a treat, as the leading artists were excellent, and the play very enjoyable.

WALL-STREET.

We visited many of the lions of the city, and included in these was the great Morgan Bank, which recently has been the scene of that horrible tragedy which we just got news of when leaving Vancouver. Whether by accident or treachery, many people were killed or horribly mutilated, we have not heard. The bank is a most imposing structure, and it grieved us all to read the harrowing news. To the world-wide Wall-street Stock Exchange we were fortunate in getting admittance, and from the gallery saw the business of those great institutions carried on. It was a quiet day, but the experience was most interesting. The separate and special means of communication which the brokers have by telegram and telephone to all parts of the world are wonderful. The transactions which are posted up here are simultaneously recorded in other great American exchanges. It was quite an interesting experience. We appreciated the courtesy extended to us—through the kindness of one of the managers of the great banking house of Brown Bros. and Co. of New York.

While appreciating the formal methods of the real exchange, the Kerbstone brokers, as they styled, were a revelation. Here in the great commercial centre hundreds of people could be seen—some coatless or hatless on account of the weather—shouting and signalling to their

officers or representatives who occupied windows in hundreds of rooms in the lofty buildings on either side—they in their turn were equally lightly clad. They have some dumb alphabetical signals by which they communicate with each other. The noise was deafening. It was Babel broke loose. It was an amusing experience, and on more than one occasion we enjoyed it.

My cork hat—they all wear straws when they finish their work—caused a lot of amusement. It was funny how a lot of them came round me and gaped and smirked, and we joked together, and at last I handed it to them and suggested they should form a company to buy me out. We had a lot of chaff, and possibly by next summer the pith hat will replace the straw. It would be more sensible for summer use here.

These people cannot get seats in the Exchange, as the ranks are filled, so have to do their business in the open at present, but are contemplating erecting a building to house themselves.

BROOKLYN.

We took a trip to Brooklyn. It is a regular hive of industry, but neither for cleanliness nor decent roads could it be commended. Still, I had some business to attend to, and was glad to cross the river by subway and return by one of the great bridges across the river by tram, when we get a fine view of the harbour works and the busy port with its crowds of steamers over 120 feet below. The full length of the bridge is over one mile. We went by underground train to the hotel, so had experience of all the means of locomotion that day.

TRIP AROUND MANHATTAN.

The trip, however, which gave us the best idea of the magnitude of this all-absorbing city was circumnavigating the city in one of the fine steamers which daily sail around the island of Manhattan on which it stands. At first we see the great statue of Liberty in the distance; then pass the wharves and docks, where some of the largest ocean liners in the world are seen, the deserted or annexed German docks and steamers, and hundreds of other traders loading and unloading. Such a busy scene has not previously come under our notice. The large factories, stores, and buildings all around us, as we steamed along under several great massive bridges, some used for train and others for ordinary traffic, which join the island to the mainland, are most impressive of the importance and trade of New York. As we proceed we pass beautifully situated mansions overlooking the fine expansive River Hudson. It was a most interesting and instructive outing, but was a little marred by a few heavy showers

of rain, which, however, from our experience seemed to favour the New Yorkers every day.

It is hardly necessary to refer to the earnestness and energy of the people. They work hard, live freely, earn big wages and salaries, and thoroughly enjoy the fruits of their industry. Very happy-go-lucky and democratic to the backbone.



WALL-STREET, NEW YORK.

During my peregrinations I did a good deal of satisfactory business in connection with my own office, and met some most interesting people, and received offers of much hospitality, but as our stay was limited I was anxious to learn as much as possible on my first visit to New York, and utilised our time accordingly. The

business part need not be included in these notes.

EXCHANGE.

Horrible dictu! the exchange evils haunt one! but without gold it is very necessary to interview one's bankers, but it is postponed as long as possible, and not relished. Fancy getting 3.63 dollars for a good pound instead of 4.85—not 15s. in the pound. Add this to the excessive prices, and then realise how much better off we are in Australia. It is worse since we left!

BUILDINGS AND STREETS.

To say nothing of Broadway and Madison-avenue and Fifth-avenue would be almost like leaving "Hamlet" out of the bill. In my opinion there are not three finer business streets in London, which is saying a great deal. For the width and length of streets, imposing solid structures (the public library, fine churches, the museums of art, aristocratic mansions, newspaper offices), magnificent shops and public buildings, and rich and attractive window displays and decorations New York excels. The buildings would be a credit to any city in the world, and as New York is honoured by ranking second to the only London, our American cousins may be justly proud of the distinction. The nightly advertisement illuminations in some of these avenues are a perpetual delight to thousands who affect these crowded places and patronise the theatres. The beautiful and fantastical designs of electric lights of all and ever changing colours are real works of art, and their kaleidoscopic effects are marvellous to the uninitiated. The streets are brilliantly lighted by these, and many transformations. To sum up, New York, with its six millions of people, is a brilliant and magnificent city, abounding in wealth, dreadfully noisy, but most attractive in the parks, drives and surroundings, and doubtless for the very wealthy in most parts of the year a delightful place to live in. The people are most enthusiastic and energetic and independent, and consider there is only one country on earth—"which is Ours." We will leave them to enjoy this consolation, having no desire to quarrel with their choice, as ours will not be affected. At the present time, agitation is going on, and feelings running high as to the election of the next President. Opinions are divided between Cox and Harding. Neither, it is argued, will reach the standard requisite for this distinguished position, but the consensus of opinion, as far as I could gauge, was in favour of Harding.

We had a very enjoyable time in New York, and made many friends, and ex-



BROOKLYN BRIDGE, NEW YORK.

tended our knowledge of this great country of all nationalities of the world.

Had the elements been more favourable, we would like to have extended our stay.

YARNS.

"What we did in the war" is not spoken of here in whispers, but the echoes of it ring through Canada, much to the amusement of the loyal friends of our Empire. The amusing anecdotes one heard by the score in connection with the "deeds that saved the Empire" would fill volumes, and were mostly satirical, but few now live in my memory. One might be worth recording. Some civilians were dining together, and a couple of men of the A.E.F. (American Expeditionary Force) were of the party. After an enjoyable feast, all were merry. One of the guests asked one of the A.E.F. if he would explain the letters on his badge, and prayed that his ignorance might be pardoned. At first the A.E.F. man protested, thinking how dense the questioner was, when at length he replied: "Why, it means 'After England fails.'"" "So glad you enlightened me," said the guest, "as I was informed it meant 'Anything except fighting.'"" The party then broke up suddenly.

It is now time we got away from New York. A prohibition quip:—A Scotchman, writing to a friend in Glasgow, assigned as a reason for pinning the postage stamp to his letter that it was such a "dry" country there was nothing to moisten the gum with.

THE COUNTRY CLUB.

There is an admirable institution called the Country Club, which is affiliated

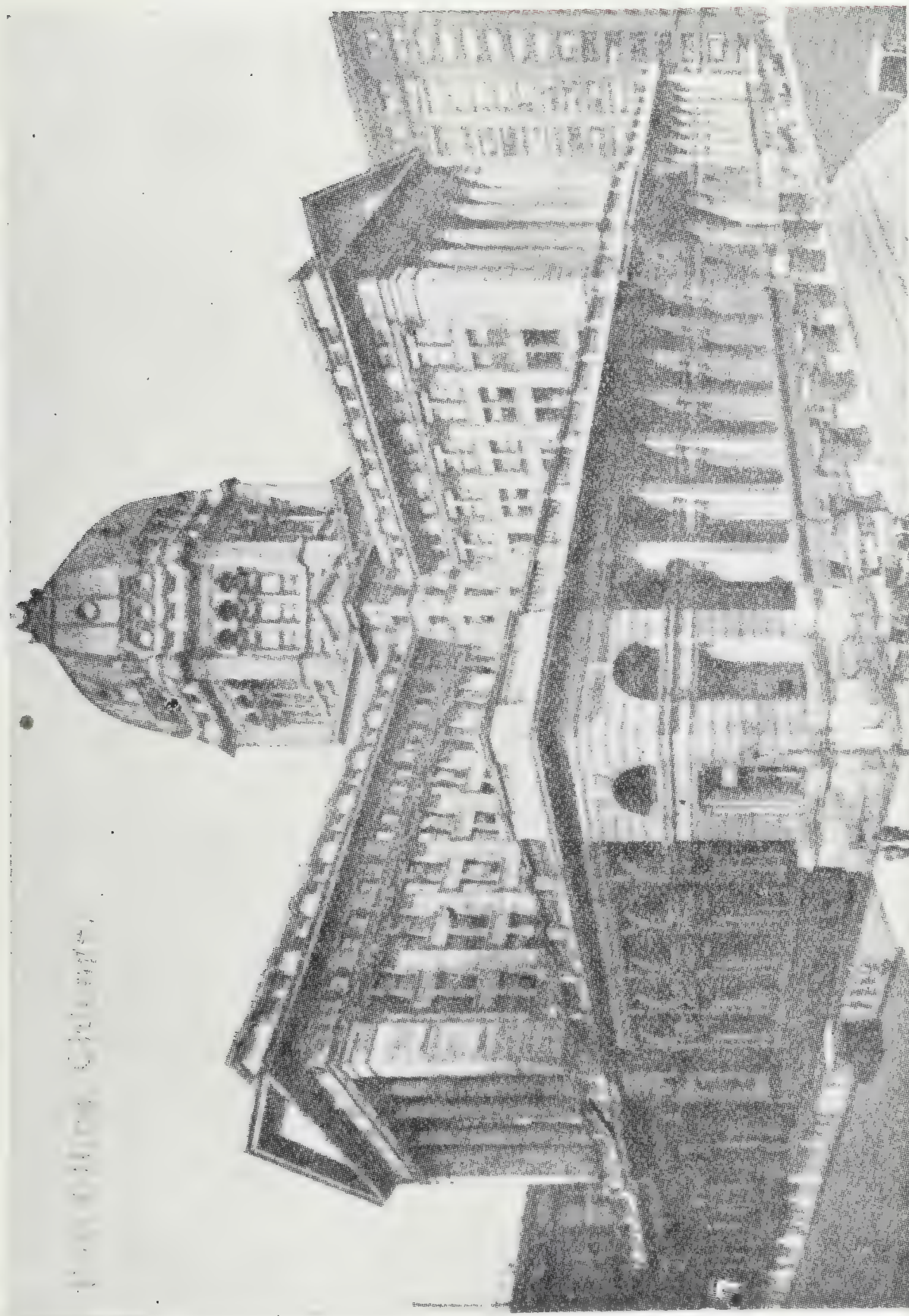
with similar clubs in America and in Canada. I was made a member of it, and found it of the greatest advantage during my travels. It is not residential, but is admirably fitted up, and most convenient to business men as a rendezvous. Meals are obtainable, and there are innumerable rooms for writing, smoking, reading, and meetings. The manager, who has many assistants, is availed of for securing reservations on trains to any part of America or Canada, hotels, and theatres, and is in communication by telephone with all leading business places. Concessions are obtained without delay, as preference seems to be given to these clubs. We highly appreciated the courtesy and consideration of the officials.

CHICAGO.

After a really agreeable stay in the U.S. capital, we took a very regretful farewell of our friends, cherishing most kindly reminiscences of those many attentions which enhanced the pleasure of our stay there, and took train to the great city of Chicago. Leaving at 6 p.m. (Wolverine), we had a comfortable compartment, and enjoyed the journey, though very hot. We were hopeful of avoiding some of the heat troubles, but as we journeyed it looked as if we were avoiding Scylla to hit Charybdis, but it was cooler after the first day at Chicago. The railway track was exceptionally smooth, even when travelling at 60 miles an hour. We were two hours late at Windsor and Detroit. Along the fine River Hudson as far as Albany it is always interesting, as we view passing steamers, and note the many busy timber mills and factories along the banks.

Juniorat St. Jean

✠ O.M.I. ✠



POST OFFICE, CHICAGO.

Detroit, a very important place, is the centre of the great automobile industry—the home of the Ford. We go through fine, open country, highly cultivated, and well grassed. A short stop is made at Jackson, where big steel and other kindred works are established. Plenty of orchards are noticeable, and lots of fruit, but the trees are allowed to grow to any height. All prominent positions are covered with hoardings—(the *bete noire* of the tourist)—with big advertisements, such as one sees everywhere en route. A large manufacturing centre is at Battle Creek, where iron works, etc., are established, and Commercial food industries find occupation for hundreds. A passing glimpse is obtained of Lake Michigan as we approach the confines of Chicago, which are not very attractive, and would not cause one to favourably anticipate seeing anything pretentious on arrival. One must not, however, buy a pig in a poke, is a useful proverb, and would apply in this case; for all along the frontages of the lake and at the railway terminus are some most imposing buildings, and the fine boulevards, as they are styled, which border the lake, are most attractive, and for miles well-kept, green sward and trees of rich foliage, with scattered flower beds, and the always envied dustless roads are pleasing to the eye, while the cool, refreshing breeze from the lake was exhilarating, like a zephyr from Paradise, after the enervating climate of New York.

One noticed hundreds of lake bathers on nearing the city. A retaining wall seemed to have been erected a little distance from the shore and inside the imprisoned water was utilised for bathing. The drive to La Salle Hotel was through some of the most congested traffic we had experienced anywhere. The noise of trains and trams and hundreds of motor-cars was deafening. Indeed, on such trifles Chicago need not give second place even to New York.

FINE CITY, BUT NOT WELL ORDERED.

After dinner we had a stroll through the fine, but over-crowded, streets, splendidly lighted, and the electrical advertising illuminations were brilliant, emulating in a small way those of the capital. Chicago is no doubt a fine city, but not, in our idea, so well cared for, nor so cleanly, as New York. Its public buildings, however, its business premises, customs, hotels, university, its monuments, and skyscrapers compare favourably with those of the capital, and, indeed, are such as to emphasise the importance and wealth of the second city of the United States.

The special mission which brought us

to this city occupied our attention for a couple of days, so that the opportunities available for seeing Chicago to the best advantages were few. Its splendid stores and shops displays are excellent, and the city well laid out. The drive out (about thirteen miles) to Montrose, which is a suburb of the city, and thickly populated, was very interesting and pleasant. The cemeteries are situated here, in well-kept grounds, and the tone of sanctity in the beautiful surroundings is most impressive. Other drives, especially that around the boulevards fronting the lake, were simply delightful.

RULE OF THE ROAD.

By-the-by, the rule of the road here is right, instead of left. At first it is rather disconcerting to one used to meeting traffic to the left. Every moment one anticipates a collision. An understanding has recently been come to, and the "right" is to be observed in Canada and the United States. The motor-buses look like great closed in caravans—quite low to the ground—and are very unsightly, but well patronised. Automobiles are in thousands; everyone has one, and it is said even the office charwoman goes to her work in her motor-car.

Deaths by accident, run over by motor-cars, or asphyxiated in some way, are almost of hourly occurrence, so that if nothing sensational is reported it is inferred that business is quiet—not that drivers are any the less reckless. The police here, like in all big cities, control the crossings, but many thoughtless people will try to beat the drivers, and are often carried to an hospital for treatment.

WORLD'S FINEST BANK BUILDING.

One challenge the Chicago citizens can throw out without fear of it being taken up, and that is they possess the finest bank building in the world—the Continental Bank. It is a marvel of beauty, built in white, massive marble, and occupies seven floors. The banking chamber, after passing through a spacious hall, is approached by a palatial marble staircase, which is magnificently grand. It looks to be about a hundred yards long, and proportionately wide, and the handsome and commodious fittings are in unison with the grandeur of the building.

To provide further sinews of war necessitated my invasion of these costly and imposing premises—imposing in more ways than one. Fancy 3.57½ dollars for a good honest Bank of England pound! (Loss of about 1.30dol.) Despite this, I could not help admiring the magnificence of the bank, and the expertness of the

officials, who did my business in about a quarter of the time some banks in Canada took, and, moreover, were wonderfully polite. Some of the officials are very casual, and patience is an essential virtue when approaching most of them, and if in a hurry, an angelic temper. I am not going to say that this reconciled me to losing about thirty pounds in exchange, but, when one is to be slaughtered, it may as well be accepted with a smile as with a frown.

before people are going to work in the mornings! Motor-cars are not allowed to remain on a place for any length of time. They must move on, even private ones—no “barking allowed here”—an American word seen painted up in different parts, which means that taxi-drivers must not fix their own location when plying for hire.

DIDN'T KNOW GOLD.

A good gold coin—a sovereign, of which



STATE AND MADISON STREETS, CHICAGO—THE BUSIEST CORNER IN THE WORLD.

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

In the evenings, when the traffic is a bit lighter, for it rumbles past and round the hotel all night, one sees motor disinfecting tanks washing the gutters, which is a practice that might well be introduced into smaller cities—even in Australia—which would add greatly to the comfort and health of pedestrians. It might be unreasonable to ask Australians to do this work after hours, as it is inconsiderate to expect our scavenging to be undertaken before breakfast or

I had a few—is not always accepted in the shops. They look at it, turn it over, a little suspicious stranger, and pass it back. No good! Don't know it! Still the banks are glad to give us 4.92 for one. Sorry I had not dozens—what a lot I should have saved in pocket, and bad language. To offer one was like asking the cove to have a liver pill or a black draught, so distorted did his visage become.

I had several opportunities of seeing some fine printing machinery, and get-



THE FEDERAL BUILDING, SEATTLE.



A FOREST OF MASTS. THE ALASKA AND PUGET SOUND SALMON
AND HALIBUT FLEETS MOORED OPPOSITE BALLARD.
AN INDUSTRY THAT REPRESENTS AN ANNUAL CROP OF \$10,000,000.

SEATTLE
U.S.A.

SEATTLE.

ting new ideas about this which engrossed a lot of time well spent. Many invitations were extended to us, which added to the pleasure of our brief stay in Chicago. I met many Masons, and was very loyally received by them, and visited lodges, and might have added greatly to our knowledge of the place had time permitted to avail ourselves of much proffered attention, but, being anxious to rejoin the press party, our visit had to be curtailed. We were landed all right here, but it was with some difficulty we were able to get away. We were hopeful to return to Vancouver by the C.P.R. route, but as no accommodation was available for a week, we had to go by the St. Paul and Milwaukee line, through the United States, and on to Seattle, and thence to Vancouver—another four days' train journey, which we were not looking forward to with much equanimity. Before leaving a reporter and photographer waited on me from the "Chicago Tribune," and I hope the information given about Australia and Tasmania would be

interesting and instructive to the people there and of advantage to us.

We patronised a few theatrical shows here, but mostly continuous pictures—which were good and interesting, and the places were always crowded. People go in, and their places are soon filled by others as they go out—a regular moving show. Our last day here was very unpleasant, as it rained incessantly.

I realise that scant justice has been done to this second city of the States, for our visit was quite a flying one, and it would be presumptuous not to admit that, when attempting to outline the features of this great commercial city. It was too noisy and nerve-racking for us, but might be delightful to those who were not obliged to live in the midst of it. It has a population of nearly two and a half million people. One, therefore, should be circumspect, for while stating its importance and its many attractions, I may candidly admit that it is not a city that one would long to live in.

TO SEATTLE AND VANCOUVER

We left Chicago by the 10.45 p.m. train en route to Seattle by the St. Paul-Milwaukee line, through United States territory, and being favoured with a comfortable compartment, were glad to avail ourselves early of the seclusion it afforded after a very strenuous and unpleasant rainy day. Night travelling does not enable one to form much idea of the districts traversed, but in the dawn it was seen we were touring through some beautiful undulating country, lightly timbered and the lands heavily cropped. In many places harvesting had commenced, and judging by the size and number of the stacks and the un-gathered crops, the results must be most satisfactory. As far as the eye could reach, the prospect was equally promising. There are no high mountains at the start, but hundreds of miles of similarly favoured agricultural and pastoral well-watered country is passed through. Here and there are herds of cattle, mobs of horses, and small flocks of sheep in the midst of many farms, with fine substantial homesteads. The stock all appeared to be in excellent condition, as might be expected from the rich pastures. Many orchards and thousands of acres of maize, all looking well, also prolific crops in well watered lucerne paddocks, are seen in all directions. For nearly 100 miles we are in sight of the fine Mississippi River, but lose it at St. Paul's, which is a very thriving industrial town.

THE TWIN CITIES.

We stayed a short time at Minneapolis, one of the most important inland cities, very prosperous, and a hive of industry. St. Paul's is not far distant from Minneapolis. These are styled the twin cities, and near by are the celebrated Minnehaha Falls, or Laughing Waters, the land of Hiawatha—the region of enchantment and the charm of romance and Indian legend. Later we cross the Missouri River by a stately bridge, credited as being a marvel of bridge builders' science, and passing through some fifty miles of fine agricultural country turn towards the Rocky Mountains and cross and recross this great river many times. The first day out from Chicago was the most oppressive we had experienced, and cooped up in our carriage, with windows and ventilators closed to avoid dust, our lot was not enviable. As we reach the Yellowstone River the country is most uninviting, the undulating, barren-looking plains being backed up by high hills denuded of trees and vegetation. It really gave one the miseries to gaze upon and realise that so many hours are occupied in passing through such wretched, inhospitable-looking country, with dried up watercourses. Later in the afternoon, however, we arrived at Harburton, where the steam engine, generally used on railways, was displaced by an electrically operated giant motor, which was a God-send. The steam engines on these lengthy trains



FIRST-AVENUE AND PIONEER-SQUARE, SEATTLE.



FOURTH-AVENUE AND UNIVERSITY-STREET, SEATTLE.

seemed to make several frantic efforts to start before we got under way, and almost shake the very vitals out of one, causing much impolite language to escape unchecked even in polite company. It is consoling, however, and a kind of relief to one's feelings to know that if a quiet swear word does escape in the presence of a lady she will smile and look approvingly at you, so that no apologies for one's apparent brusqueness or rudeness are necessary. The electric engine, which is more powerful, seems to pick up its load without any exertion, and is free from jerk or jar.

THROUGH THE ROCKIES BY ELECTRIC POWER.

Having got through this wretched experience the most interesting part of the journey is entered upon approaching the southern ranges of the Rocky mountains. Through these immense mountain passes the train travels at great speed by tortuous courses, immense cuttings, frequent tunnels, over airy bridges with towering mountains above, and rocky depths and rushing waters below, while from the observation car one tries to philosophise and admire, unconcernedly, the wonderful works of the Almighty. As our Yankee friends say—I guess it is a bit nerve racking flying down some of these steep and winding ravines.

Well, I was glad of the experience, and gladder when it was over. Our main line is not a circumstance compared to the awful curves on this. One part did scare a lot of us. When nearing Butte, a big mining copper centre, we were travelling over sixty miles an hour down an incline, like the Bower, on Huon-road, and the dust nearly blinded and choked us, driving everyone off the platform of the observation car inside. I thought the blessed engine had bolted. It was beastly hot and oppressive, and we all looked like millers. We were relieved when the train landed us safely in this brilliant electrically lighted town, which looked very imposing as the train curved round into the station.

The journey through these great mountain ranges was altogether very fine, but we thought the C.P.R. route certainly the grander.

Early next morning we had another change to steam engines, which was soon noticeable. The power for the electric engines is brought a great distance, and the overhead lines feed the motors as on our electric trams. It is said to be an immense saving, and is certainly cleaner and more comfortable for travellers to be freed from the smoke and cinders, and in time the whole line is likely to be electrified.

Next morning we all were a bit bad tempered, smarting under the irritation which frequently disconcerts travellers, in connection with time, as we got up at our usual hour, and found, owing to the change of longitude, the clocks had been put back without advising us, necessitating our waiting a couple of hours or so longer for breakfast. During the last day we cross over the great bridge which spans the Columbia River, nearly a mile in length, and through much fertile country, but really we were getting weary of the journey and were looking forward anxiously to reach our destination. The latter part of the journey is interesting, but one gets too blasé to admire. Some thriving looking towns are passed, and of Lake Idaho and the river we get an excellent view from a very elevated position, not, however, before travelling through very long belts of prairie country, very parched and miserable looking. It was certainly satisfactory when we left it behind. A 7 mile tunnel brings us nearer to our destination, and on arrival we proceeded to the Frye Hotel, weary and worn and sad, and delighted to get a hot bath and well-earned rest in Seattle.

The foregoing sketch gives a somewhat hazy idea of this protracted train journey through some of the great United States territory, and it must not be inferred from this brief and incomplete outline that the country is not equally as important and prolific, both in agriculture and industry, as Canada, but our opportunities for observing it, in such a hurried visit, do not enable justice to be done to it.

SEATTLE.

Seattle is the principal port of the Pacific, and is the terminal of the Grand Trunk Pacific route, and commercially of great importance to the United States. It has a population of over 400,000, a fine harbour, well sheltered from storms, and with excellent shipping facilities, which are fully utilised. It is a very interesting and busy city, and has many most attractive buildings, good streets, parks, shipyards, and floating docks, and fine railway station. The residents boast that this is the most important seaport—next to New York—in the United States, and moreover is the best lighted, best watered, best sewered, best paved city on the globe. With so many expletives, one cannot stop to argue as to the correctness of their assertion. Better to accept their own verdict. It is a most interesting place, and we were sorry not to be able to exploit it more closely, but being anxious to rejoin the Press party as soon as possible, we made our visit short. The great snow capped mountain, Rainier, which is seen from Seattle, is nearly 15,000 feet high, and is also visible in clear weather from



PIKE-STREET, SEATTLE.



FLOATING DOCK, SEATTLE.

Victoria. We had intended to go by train to Vancouver, having heard it was a very pleasant and interesting journey, but by water most delightful. Being rather fed up for the time with train travelling, we elected to take advantage of the commodious and well appointed steamers, which run twice a day to Victoria and Vancouver. After running the gauntlet once more with our passports to get out of the States into Canada, we were eventually safely aboard the crowded boat, early on a foggy and unpleasant morning en route for Victoria. People had spoken to us eulogistically about this trip and its beauties, but we failed to realise them. True, the morning was foggy and disagreeable, so we could not

enthusiasm much about the scenery, but in our opinion it compares very indifferently with the trip down D'Entrecasteaux Channel, in Hobart. It is a perfectly smooth trip through the Straits to Puget Sound, and doubtless under better weather conditions we might have enjoyed the four hours' run to Victoria.

After a short stay at Victoria, we arrived at Vancouver about 6 p.m., and were glad to get to Vancouver Hotel, where we were cordially welcomed by a large number of the Press party, who had arrived here the previous evening, and had been busily engaged in carrying out the programme, which they began to find rather exacting.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

VICTORIA THE BEAUTIFUL

Our delegates seemed to have appreciated the opportunity of seeing Fort William, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Banff, Lake Louise, as well as having had the steamer trip across the lakes, of which we had had previous experience. The receipt of letters and cables from home here was very satisfactory. Correspondents hardly realise that letters via Vancouver going to the East take four or more days to reach Montreal, and as many days to return to Vancouver, so that much of our correspondence missed us, and doubtless would be reposted to Tasmania. It must not be thought that the products of Tasmania are not used in British Columbia, as well as in other parts of Canada. We know, amongst other products, a lot of pulp fruit goes there, and is highly thought of. Indeed, a fine collection of I.X.L. jams was seen in one establishment. It was like meeting an old friend to see the well-known brand so prominently displayed.

The afternoon after our return a most pleasing reception was given to the Press delegates, and was attended by us at the charmingly situated and lovely home of Major and Mrs. Rae, Higheroft. The gardens were a picture, and the profusion of blooms, the grassy banks, and shrubs, most pleasing to the olfactory and visionary organs. The panoramic view of the city and surroundings from the terraces was most picturesque. The very large and fashionable party was most hospitably entertained. Many prominent citizens and their wives were met here, and one or two had visited our own beautiful island. A friend of Lady Newdegate and Miss Rushton made very kindly inquiries about them.

In the evening we were all invited to a large civic dinner, given by the Mayor

and City Council, which was also attended by many prominent citizens and members of Parliament. This was a "dry" banquet, but a very good "cup," palatable and cool, was served, and seemed to be appreciated, though no one got over-hilarious. The usual complimentary speeches and some excellent music and singing helped to pass a very enjoyable evening. The cordiality of the welcome was, as usual, very marked. A reception and dance followed, and Terpsichore reigned supreme for some time, till a gentle reminder was given that the party had to leave again early in the morning. Thereupon a general exodus followed, to enable packing up and other essentials to be completed, for another move on.

TRIP TO VICTORIA.

Although we had not contemplated remaining much longer with the Press party, yet at the request of our Canadian hosts and so many of our own party we were induced to proceed to Victoria, and go as far back eastward as Edmonton, before finally taking leave. Early on the following morning, in rainy and unpleasant weather, we joined the C.P. steamer en route for Victoria. Despite the wet and the crowded state of the boat, which lessened our comfort, we enjoyed the 80 miles run in the 16 knot boat, admiring the scenery and prominent features as we steamed down the long gulf. On reaching Victoria, Jupiter Pluvius, being unable to resist the more powerful presence of old Sol, had been dethroned, and we were soon very comfortably housed in the palatial Empress Hotel, which, in my opinion, is the most commodious and unique in Canada. The hotel is beautifully situated, overlooking the bay, with well-kept open lawns and terraces, and fine gardens attached. My

approbation adjectives get exhausted, and it is difficult to coin new ones, to express more emphatically my ideas of the very attractive surroundings. The hotel is admirably maintained and furnished, with large, spacious, well appointed bedrooms, lounges, reading and smoking and drawing-rooms. What a luxury a few such hotels would prove in our part of the world. Would they pay? I'm sure they would, if properly managed.

CROWDED HOTELS.

Victoria is the capital of the province of British Columbia, and is the first Canadian port we made from Australia,

all visitors in search of a room at any hotel have to abide their turn, and form a long queue. It is very tiresome having to wait with fifty, or perhaps more, in front of one, quite oblivious of whether all the accommodation is not taken up. I have seen dozens turned away—"full up" being the polite reply. On arrival of a big steamer or trains there is always a rush. That is how the Press delegates always scored, for their rooms were reserved in advance. The hotel motor-omnibuses meet every train and steamer, but though you get a drive up to the hotel with your luggage—for which you, of course, pay—it does not follow that



HEAD OF JAMES BAY, VICTORIA, B.C.

after passing through the straits of Juan de Fuca, leading out to the Pacific. It is a most interesting and important city. It is nicely and picturesquely laid out, and reminds one at every turn of our own beautiful island. Before entering the hotel everyone had been advised of the apartment he was to occupy, and so complete were the details that the hundreds of packages of luggage, which had all been previously numbered, were in their owner's rooms within half an hour after our arrival. Dozens of smart little Japs. act as porters, and, of course, like their Canadian confreres, expect to be insulted with a decent tip. As a rule,

you will stay there. Sometimes, when there is a crowd, the commissionaire will ask if you have reservations. If you have, all right; if not, you will be told, "place is full."

JAUNT INTO THE COUNTRY.

Not a great deal of time was lost before the delegates were again much in evidence. A big crowd had assembled on the wharf, including the Mayor and civic members, to welcome us, and with great promptness we were soon after all comfortably seated in motor-cars, chauffeured by citizen owners, and driven along a most inter-

esting and attractive road, with hills and lakes on all sides, to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Butchart, of "Benvenuto," about twelve miles out—a lovely jaunt. It is a very delightful home, surrounded by shrubberies, enclosing fine lawns and terraces and beds of flowers in full and fragrant bloom. Tea, etc., was served on the lawns, and a merrier, brighter and more contented party it would be difficult to gather together. The smiling hostess, so cheerfully supported by her genial husband, was most solicitous for the comfort of her innumerable guests, and right royally did all appreciate the outing. To add to our amusement the world-renowned wizard Malini, well known in Tasmania, was there, and mystified most of the crowd with his inimitable sleight of hand tricks. The interior of this commodious and lovely cottage home was a revelation of beauty, exquisite taste and quaintness, and one looked and lingered, and longed to look again. An old quarry, like that on the Hobart domain, had been most tastefully transformed into a rustic garden, with imposing surroundings, converting a wilderness or quagmire into a scene of exquisite beauty, a touch of Japanese and Oriental taste being added to the decorative display.

Our very genial and interesting friend, Mr. Todd, who drove us out, with his wife, was formerly Mayor, and is a very enthusiastic tourist supporter, being responsible for many of the splendid dustless, concrete roads one enjoys all about Victoria, and for hundreds of miles into the interior. This, besides its other attractions, is a great resort for motorists who tour Victoria, with much pleasure and comfort, coming from all parts of Canada and even Washington (U.S.) to enjoy the delights of this much-favoured place—a second Tasmania in climate, scenery, and vegetation—in my opinion facile princeps the most attractive place in Canada to live.

I noted in our drive down most of the big declivities, of which there are many and narrow, that against many of the fences, with strong round posts, substantial logs are placed, which are desirable precautions and prevent serious accidents. Cement posts and rails painted to imitate wood were most effective looking, and are said to be very serviceable.

Amongst other interesting people one met at Mr. Butchart's were some who knew Tasmania, through Mr. Heatherbell, who once lived and has property here, but now resides in and eulogises Hobart and its Huon attractions. Mr. Fullarton spoke to me of him, and I hope some day to be able to tell him personally of my own experience amongst his many B.C. friends and well wishers.

Our drive back to the hotel was most enjoyable; indeed quite exhilarating were the climatic conditions here and the picturesque surroundings of mountains, hills, lakes, and pretty homesteads, with plenty of animal life about, especially dairy cattle, and poultry galore, white Leghorns predominating. One never feels tired of sounding the charms of Victoria. The evening was very pleasantly employed by a joint Government and citizens' banquet, at which the Lieut.-Governor and his Lady were present and held a reception, which all the delegates and their wives attended, and were pleased at the cordiality and affability which prevailed.

Amongst other important industries, shipbuilding is carried on here, and the port lends itself admirably to yachting and aquatics, which are special attractions of the place.

It is a city quite in keeping with its rank as the capital. Any large steamer can load and unload at the wharves, and it is a busy centre, and yearly growing in wealth and population.

It is credited with being the most English-like city in Canada. It has fine, well-formed concrete and asphalted streets, electric trams, excellent buildings, banks, and public offices, a splendid and handsome House of Parliament, pretty parks and drives, beautiful suburbs, exquisitely situated and ornately laid out, and, of course, golf grounds.

AT DUNCAN.

One of our most enjoyable outings was taken next day to a town called Duncan, about 45 miles away, over a fine road, through hills and dales, and mountain passes, as interesting and beautiful as our previous day's drive. Anyone who has visited Columbia Falls, on the East Coast of Tasmania, will understand when I say that some of the mountain scenery here resembles that trip, and may thus estimate the beauties of the drive. Despite a little rain, under the able guidance of Mr. Gilbert D. Christie (a fine driver and most interesting companion), we saw everything to the best advantage. We were given views of the special features of the country, and visited the reservations of the Red Indians and their domiciles. Then we came upon fine orchards, and the fisheries and some of the industries were fully explained to us.

On arrival at Duncan, a good agricultural centre, a large crowd of people of both sexes had assembled to welcome us, and we had a jolly good time, some hundreds attending, and they did us right royally—dry, of course. The ladies of the district helped to provide the good things, and saw that our wants were fully satisfied. Several felicitous speeches

were made. The noise made by an engine shunting outside was rather a trying ordeal for Lord Burnham, who had to speak against it, but having good lungs he struggled through manfully, and got a big reception. The noise was worse than when addressing an opposition meeting at election time, but the reporters got the speech O.K., and the disturbance had a humorous side to it.

I was called upon to speak for Australia, and had a flattering reception. Amongst other matters, I compared their country to beautiful Tasmania, the Eden of the Southern Hemisphere, etc., the loveliest place in the world, and their happy and contented people to the best type of English patriots, etc. In the assembly we had a very stout 5ft. caterer—a regular Jos. Moore—and a 6ft. 6in. man, and a splendid healthy-looking plump lot of youngsters and babies. By making some allusions to the prolific nature of the country I jocularly referred to how it affected different human temperaments, instancing the twenty-stone corpulent gentleman and the 6ft. 6in. cornstalk. It caused a big roar, as both are very popular residents.

After the lunch a lot of the people came to chat with me who either had been in or had friends in Tasmania or Australia—Mr. and Mrs. Cheeke, a nephew of the late Mr. Long (the old Sydney sport, who owned *Grand Flaneur*), who have been farming and doing well here for 20 years; a Mr. R. G. Palmer, who lived with Wright Bros., Glenorchy; a Colonel Oldham, who, as well as his sister, are known to many Hobart people; also one who was Miss Griffiths (now married), and was an auxiliary nurse at Hobart and asked me if I knew Mrs. A. C. Parker. Many others also were interested, and had friends in Tasmania, but their names I forget.

By the by, we saw a nice little salmon, which had been caught that morning, and weighed only 38lb.—a magnificent specimen. Of course, we had salmon for lunch, perhaps a near relative of this! What would the late poor "Jolly-tail" have given to enthuse over this trifle!

THE RETURN TRIP.

On our return journey to Victoria we made a slight detour, and enjoyed the less used roads, through dense forests and mountain passes, till we reached the very quaint mountain retreat of Mr. Christie, overlooking Lake Selwigen, where we enjoyed afternoon tea with Mrs. Christie, and then got back to the hotel before dusk, after a really delightful day's outing. We saw hundreds of young quail running all along the tracks and mountain passes, also pheasants and

grouse. This is a fine shooting country—plenty of game, big and little, and the season was just about coming on. Fishing, of course, is a great attraction, and lots of nice little hauls, like the big fish above referred to, are landed by enthusiastic Izaak Waltonians.

There were some entertainments in the evening, which we were too tired to participate in. It rained all night, so some out-of-door attractions were not patronised. The unfavourable weather conditions upset the arrangements made for outings next day, and most of us preferred to stay at the hotel and prepare for our return by afternoon boat to Vancouver, in order to catch the early train out from there on Monday morning. There was an afternoon reception at Government House on Sunday, but this was marred by the weather.

A TRIP INTO ALBERTA PROVINCE.

We got back to Vancouver about 7 p.m., and after dinner had a quiet couple of hours at the hotel, then motored to the train on which, having our old comfortable quarters, we slept well, only being aroused early on the next morning by the people who came to bid farewell to the members of our party, and with a parting cheer our train moved off eastwards en route for our first stopping place—Kamloops. It was a beautiful bright morning, and all the passengers were glad after our meals to take advantage of the comfortable observation car to view the route on the opposite side of the River Fraser on the Canadian Trunk Line, which, in our opinion, is inferior to the C.P.R. track. The scenery is much the same as has been previously referred to, but always engrossing and refreshing.

At 6 p.m. we reached a small station near Kamloops, where we alighted and were motored a few miles backward to Kamloops over a rather rough bush track. We passed the great Tranquille Consumptive Sanatorium, with its hundreds of patients who, anticipating our arrival, were out on the balconies and terraces, and cheered us as we passed, and, of course, we heartily responded. The climate here is said to be singularly dry and wonderfully healthy, so that the site of the Sanatorium is admirably chosen. An effort is being made by a number of philanthropists to establish a colony on the Indian Reserve, which adjoins this, for disabled soldiers and their families, especially those suffering from pulmonary troubles. It is a happy inspiration, and doubtless will be supported by the Dominion Federal Government, which has already evinced great sympathy with the project. On reaching Kamloops, a town of nearly 6,000 people, a big mining centre, and rich in timber

and agricultural wealth, we went over the Thompson River, and drove all through and about the electrically lighted city, and then to a newly erected pavilion, which was crowded with people, and hundreds were unable to obtain admission. The place was flagged and illuminated, and a good old band heralded our approach, and kept the game alive while we were there. We all appreciated the opportunity of mingling with the residents, interchanging ideas, and learning something of each other's aspirations and conditions, and were cordially received.

Some speeches of welcome were made, and Dr. Powell, one of our party, delivered the most eloquent speech I heard during the tour. His peroration on the duties of citizenship and loyalty to the Empire was a masterly effort, and unfortunately the press reporters missed it, and the absent public lost a great treat.

THE BUFFALO FEAST.

Amidst much enthusiasm we rejoined our train, and soon were steaming away to our next trysting place, Jasper, which was reached about 10 a.m. next day. This is the great forest and game reserve of 3,000 square miles, set aside by the Dominion Government. Conveyances of all kinds were here available, motors, buggies, democrats (so called; why, no one could say), a kind of omnium gatherum cart, with cross seats, crowd one, crowd all, sit as you can, traps, and some saddle horses. These conveyed us along a pretty rough road across a stream leading to Lake Beauvert and over a bush track until we arrived at the picnic ground, where great preparations were being made for our festive al fresco lunch. It was a grandstand feed, that is, long tables were set up, and we all stood up to eat the luncheon. The piece de resistance for the meal was buffalo, which was being roasted on an immense wood fire, like we grill a beefsteak at a bush picnic. It was a delectable experience, and members of the party entered fully into the spirit of the entertainment. To see Lord Burnham armed cap-a-pie, with a full cook's rig-out, white apron and cap, with basting spoon, a great butcher's knife, steel, and fork, was a sight that was worthy of the occasion. I am not sure whether he had a saw and meat chopper, but it might have helped in dissecting the animal. The photographer was at work, so this will not be lost to posterity. As the red flesh was served on to the plates, piled up with vegetables, the hungry crowd set to work, but I imagine their sharpened appetites had, in many cases, to be satisfied with vegetables, as our grinders had not been well enough prepared to masticate this bovine specimen of the great Columbian game reserve, and my diges-

tive organs rather revolted at the idea of gulping it down, even with the aid of the best Mocca or Ceylon beverage. I am afraid the delegates did not relish the buffalo food. It must, like olives, be an acquired taste. The *bonne bouche* was placed at the side of plates for later consideration. No medical aid was called in after the feast, so that was a consolation. However, we had altogether a jolly day, camping on the banks of the lake, boating, and canoeing, and mountaineering, in which all had a go. A large local brass band drowned dull care, and the party was a high-spirited one.

MOUNTAIN ASCENTS.

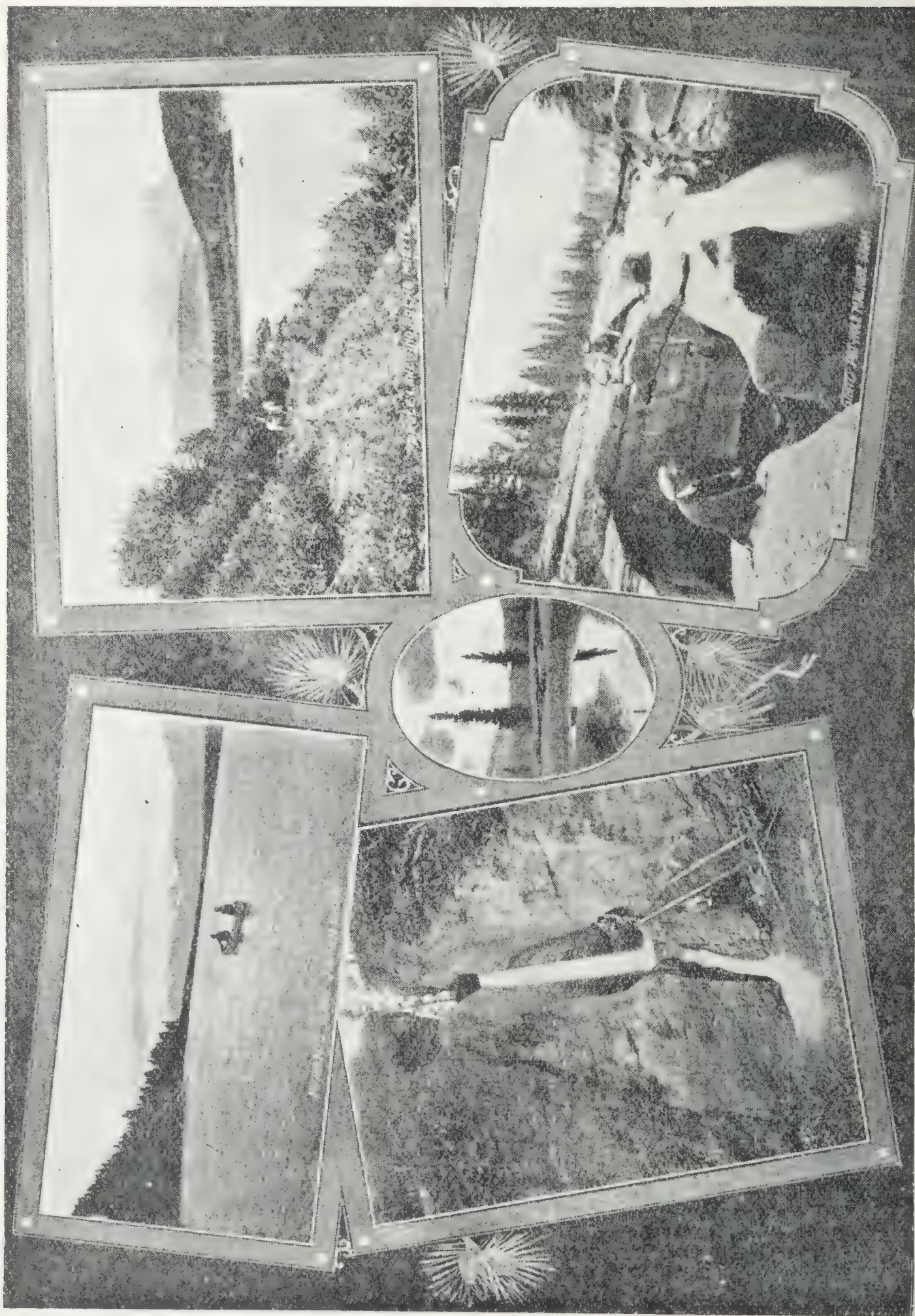
After luncheon we were taken up some of the formidable mountains, and in our ascent had several stops to admire the magnificent panorama as we drove round a very circuitous and somewhat nasty track to exploit the great Maligne Canyon. Onward to the lofty mountains beyond us covered with snow, which overawed and surrounded us. A very historically interesting one is the recently named peak, of over 11,000 feet, Mt. Edith Cavell, so called, a magnificent monument, in honour of the heroic Red Cross nurse, so tragically slaughtered by the Germans in 1915.

On reaching the proper altitude we alighted and had to climb down some passes to inspect the beautiful waterfall as it rushed down through the narrow gorges to the rivers, or lake below, passing through precipitous chasms of 100 feet, and then 180 feet, till it is lost to view as it wends round the mountain to its destination.

The drive back to the train though exhilarating was devoid of incident. On the homeward journey our attention was called to a very high mountain called Rocho Bonhomme, the summit of which is like the figure of a man with a well defined profile of a face looking skyward. It is said to be composed of a dark, reddish coloured shale, and is in striking contrast to the grey limestone of the rest of the range. It reminded one of the "Sleeping Beauty" so prominent in the Huon district of Tasmania. Many of us later enjoyed the welcome cup of tea which was obtained at Capt. and Mrs. Ross's hospitable home. He is the curator. How the Governor-General and his family spend their time in hunting big game and camping here is not disclosed, as he paid a visit to this hunting ground some weeks after we ate, or rather cooked, the buffalo. There may be more!

EDMONTON.

Next morning early, after our rest on the train, we arrived at Edmonton, a large agricultural centre of 68,000 people. Edmonton is the capital city of the pro-



VIEWS OF JASPER.

vince of Alberta, and is situated on the banks of the River Saskatchewan. At one time it was the great trading port of the celebrated Hudson Bay Company, a rendezvous of Indians and trappers, but now a most important place, with wide streets, substantial public buildings, including the University and the Legislative Council, banks, fine residences, parks, railroads, street cars, and automobiles galore. Of course, the railways in Canada have transformed this place, within twenty years, from a prairie village to a thriving city. It is one of the richest farming districts of Canada, and has also good coal and other minerals. At this station we were met by a committee of the citizens, and were heartily received. A special representative was told off for each Press delegate, and under his fraternal guidance he was motored to the Macdonald Hotel, where all were soon very comfortably housed and made wise provision for a protracted and strenuous day. The River Saskatchewan, which is spanned by a splendid railway bridge, is overlooked from the hotel, which stands on an eminence. Several ladies also were commissioned to entertain the ladies of our party, and proved delightful and thoughtful hostesses.

A SCHOOL FLAG.

The first function which engaged our attention was the presentation of a school flag from the Edmonton school in England to the local school of the same name and was a really fine spectacle. About 10,000 children were assembled in the big open square, and under a rather scorching sun. The immense crowd was very patient. A very effective address was made by one of the delegates, Mr. A. L. Woodhead, of Huddersfield, in presenting the flag, which was received with deafening and continuous cheers, as could be expected from such an army of boys, as this, by request, was unfurled by Lady Burnham, amidst the greatest enthusiasm, and the singing of the National Anthem and Rule Britannia. What with the continuous cheers from the children and the noise of the band it was difficult to get order, while the teacher returned thanks and referred to their splendid educational system.

The story of the flag unfurled was given to us as follows:—"Edmonton, Alberta, derives its name from Edmonton, England, a suburb of London which lies seven and a half miles north of London Bridge. After Germany had been defeated some one in the English Edmonton made the happy suggestion that, in commemoration of Canada's part in achieving the victory, the school children there should send a gift to those of this city on the Saskatchewan. They are nearly all of them the sons and daughters of

hard working people with little money to spend, but they all gave their share of a sum which was used to buy the handsome Union Jack and the shield which clasps the flagpole. On July 24th, 1919, this flag of real army bunting was unveiled in Pymmes Park in the old Edmonton, about twelve thousand school children being present to see what their pennies had purchased. It was a most beautiful summer day, many bands were playing, every child carried a flag, many were in costume and the whole town was gaily decorated. When a halyard was pulled by the wife of the chairman of the education committee, and the flag was flung, twenty-seven feet across, to the breezes, there was such a cheering as the venerable borough had never heard before during the centuries of its history. This was followed by cheers for the school children of our Edmonton, which could only be stopped by the signal being given to the band to play the National Anthem. With such abundance of goodwill was this gift dispatched from the young people of the old town to those of its namesake across the ocean. It will be treasured in the same spirit as that in which it was sent."

O CANADA!

O Canada! Our home and native land,
True patriotic-love in all thy sons command,
With glowing hearts we see thee rise
The true North, strong and free;

And stand on guard, O Canada.
Stand aye on guard for thee.
O Canada! O Canada!
O Canada! We stand on guard for thee.
O Canada! We stand on guard for thee.

OTHER FUNCTIONS.

Leaving this scene of celebration we were motored round the city and immediate district to view the lions of the place, and later to the University of Alberta, where we were, with other prominent citizens, including the Governor, entertained at luncheon. Dr. Torey, the President of the University, delivered a very fine address of welcome, and one of our delegates, who responded at some length, did not quite confine his remarks to reasonable limits, overlooking the good trite saying that a speech should be like a lady's dress—long enough to cover the subject, but short enough to make it interesting! We were afterwards presented to the Governor and many of the leading people, and had a very pleasant time together. A Mr. Geo. Dowe, an old New Zealander, proved very interesting, and I enjoyed hearing his experiences in this part of the world. I was questioned a good deal about our own country, and was glad to be able to impart some requisite information.



JASPER-AVENUE, EDMONTON.



BRIDGE ACROSS SASKATCHEWAN RIVER, EDMONTON.

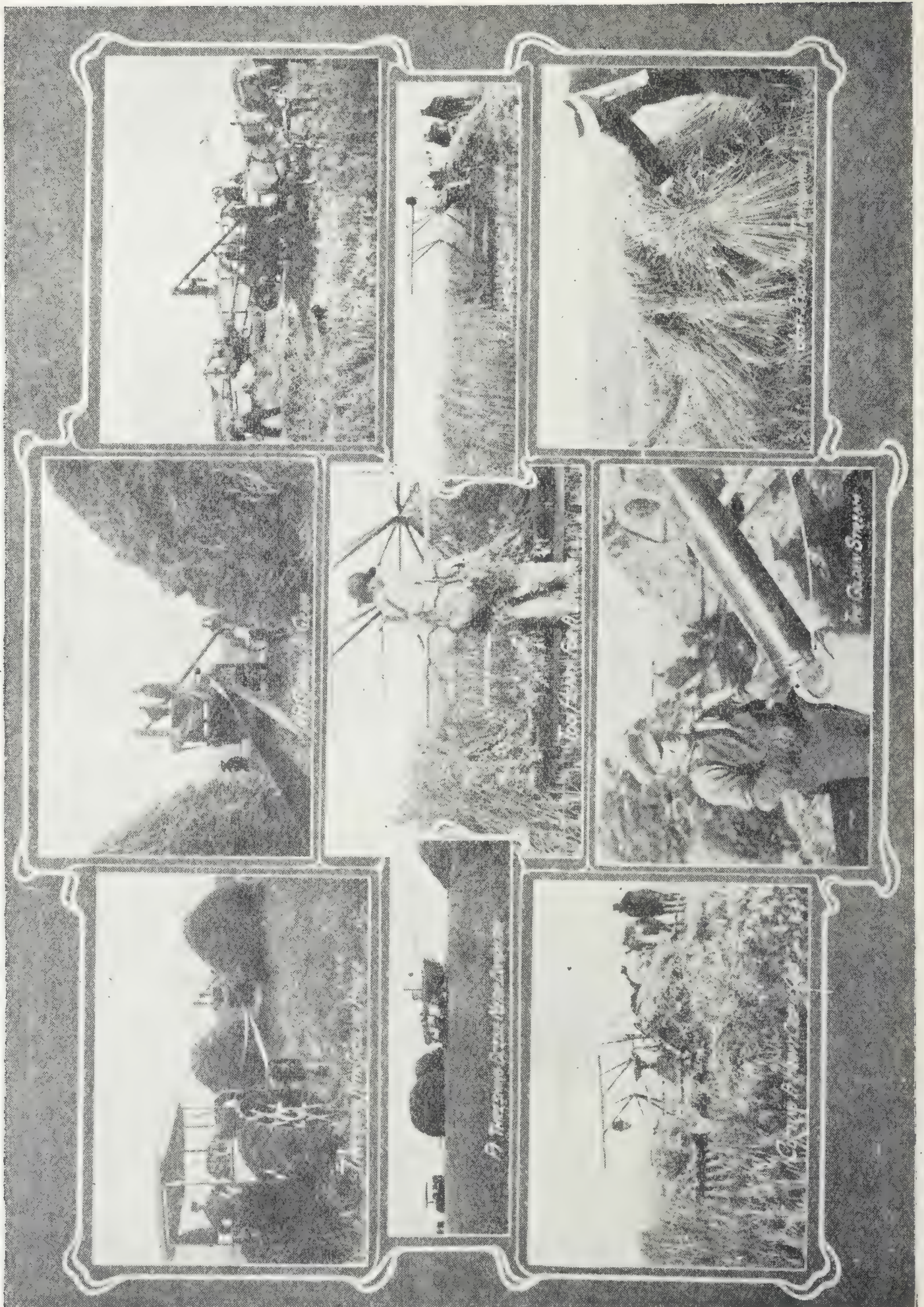
Leaving this function we motored, in care of Mr. Duggan, to the County Club, some miles out, over a very new and bumpy road, passing some fine agricultural country and seeing most promising crops. We witnessed some interesting golf playing, several of our members taking part in a match, which they lost. Afternoon tea, very lavishly provided, reconciled us to our shaking up and to the defeat of the Press golfers. The links are very pleasantly and picturesquely situated, and our people all appreciated the courtesy and hospitality of the members of the club. The ladies, who had been guests of the Women's Club at luncheon, joined us here, and after a pleasant afternoon we returned to the city.

On our way home we called at Government House, where the Governor and his Lady (Mr. and Mrs. Brett) received us all very cordially. There was not much breathing time given as we hurried back to prepare for the evening, when we attended a dinner given by the Provincial Government. The Governor and the Premier (who presided) and several Ministers were present, with very many influential people and ladies, which taxed the capacity of the immense hall.

The Premier made a happy speech, and Lord Burnham very cordially acknowledged the splendid welcome accorded on behalf of the English. I was called upon to respond for Australia, and was complimented upon my speech, and had a very cordial reception. In my speech, after acknowledging the magnificent welcome which had been so lavishly extended to us in every State of the Dominion, I said that "hospitality and cordiality were synonymous with Canada," and then referred to some of the sentiments which had been so prominent at all our gatherings, especially the desire for drawing all parts of the great Empire more closely together, and so obtaining a better knowledge of their hopes and aspirations. We wanted more than mere lip service. It was time to act, and in my opinion, the best way to begin to prove our sincerity and extend our interests was through the medium of the Press, which ought to supply better information of what transpired in the commercial, financial, and political world of the great countries of Australia and New Zealand. To arouse interest and induce inquiries was a good starting point. Barriers had to be broken down, and less selfishness displayed in

promoting business connections if there was any intention of bringing about reciprocity in trade. I referred to the splendid unanimity that had existed during the war; how our brave boys had fought shoulder to shoulder in their efforts to crush German militarism, and how they had covered themselves with glory by their splendid heroism, and did not boast that they had won the war. (Loud applause.) If co-operation and unanimity prevailed under such conditions, why should the effort not be extended? I also took the opportunity of lauding our Canadian Press hosts, especially the chairman, Lord Atholstan, and the energetic secretary, Mr. C. S. Crandell, editor of the "Montreal Star," and the State and Dominion Governments, as well as the Can. P.R. Co. and their obliging and courteous officials, and all those who had so co-operated in the unqualified success which had attended the visit of the Imperial Press delegates. It was a triumph of forethought and wonderful management, which had greatly impressed us all. I referred also to the thoughtfulness and courtesy that had everywhere been shown to our ladies, who would, like ourselves, carry away delightful reminiscences of their Canadian visit. I did not overlook expressing regret that we were leaving the party, and the special gratification it had been to again be associated with our old friends, Lord and Lady Burnham, Sir Gilbert Parker, Harry Brittain, Crosbie Rolls, and others, and an earnest hope that we might some day forgather in Australia under similar happy and pleasant auspices.

It was an excellent convivial function, and most enthusiastic. At the conclusion of the dinner the company mingled happily together, and we were introduced to many of the members of the Government and other public men, which proved interesting and instructive. As the Press Party was leaving early in the morning, and we were returning homeward, much time was taken up in bidding farewell to those of the delegates with whom we had come mostly into contact. The mutual regrets at parting were very sincere, for after so much pleasant intercourse, naturally many new friendships had sprung up, and it was with regret we had to say good-bye. The kindest memories were brought away with us of the pleasurable time we had spent with the members of the Conference, and their expressions of concern at losing us were very flattering and much appreciated by us. Best and hearty good wishes for an early reunion were cordially reciprocated.



HARVEST SCENES IN CANADA.

THE RETURN TO VANCOUVER

NOTES ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS

The morning was very quiet, and it was not difficult to realise by the depression which hung around that a blank had been created, and we had to recognise that the last had been seen by us of the 1920 Press delegates.

We had to remain at Edmonton till late in the evening for the train to convey us back to Vancouver, and passed the time by peregrinating about the city and suburbs, and surveying stores and public buildings. It gave me the opportunity also of meeting some prominent Masons, by whom I was cordially greeted, and I inspected the Masonic-hall.

After travelling all night and next day we were relieved to reach Vancouver at 10 a.m. on Saturday, very tired and fagged. There was nothing very striking to record on the return journey, except that we found this line very rough, and consequently the travelling anything but agreeable. The train pulled up once near Mt. Robson, the giant mountain of the Rockies, 15,000 feet high, to give the passengers time to realise its vastness and height. Other features of the road have previously been referred to.

We had contemplated a run to San Francisco, where we had many pressing invitations, but another four or five days jaunt on the train after what we had gone through shook our resolution, and we decided to rest in Vancouver. How we passed the time till we joined the Niagara on our homeward trip, except for a few incidents, may be summed up very briefly. We had many invitations to private houses, motor trips, and golf clubs and private clubs, which were accepted, and the visits much enjoyed.

MASONIC.

The Grand Master, the Deputy G.M., the Grand Secretary, and the leading G.L. officers of British Columbia were met on many occasions, and their reception of me was very gratifying. W.M.'s and the brethren, in their lodges and privately, were most hospitable and cordial.

The following paragraph appeared in the Vancouver "Daily Province" of September 12 last, which acknowledged the many courtesies extended to the G.M. of Tasmania in Canada by members of the craft:—Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., of Tasmania, an Imperial Press Conference delegate, will sail for home on the Niagara, and wishes to extend thanks to Canadian Freemasons for the many courtesies received in the course of his tour across the Dominion. Mr. Davies has

been Grand Master of the Tasmanian Grand Lodge for more than 20 years. During his stay in Vancouver he has collaborated with the Grand Master of British Columbia, the Grand Secretary, and many past and present Grand Lodge officers. He has visited two of the lodges and received invitations to attend others. Mr. Davies expressed himself as greatly impressed with the goodwill and brotherly regard among the Masons, and the beneficial influence which so large and increasing an institution must exercise in the community. The Grand Lodge of Tasmania has delegates in all the grand lodges of Canada, and in Vancouver Mr. F. M. Cowperthwaite, P.G.D., is the representative.

AT THE SHOW.

It was disappointing that I was unable to accept many special invitations. Naturally, we were glad to attend the agricultural show, and as I had our old friend, Mr. Fred. W. Moore, of London, for a companion, we had a really enjoyable time, being the guest of the President, Mr. J. J. Miller, an old Australian. Mr. Miller introduced us to many of the leading people here and amongst special visitors to the luncheon was a big crowd of members of the Rotary Club. This is a very interesting institution, every member of which represents one special profession, trade or business, and the Press, of course. They meet every month or oftener at lunch, and if necessary discuss some subject affecting the general interest for an hour, and when there is no special business, the hour is spent in harmony. It is an influential body, and very philanthropic. They constituted a very merry crowd of over a hundred at the luncheon, residents from different parts of British Columbia. Some of their special songs were most hilarious. I promised to be a member of it if a branch were established in Australia. The speeches at the luncheon were very lively, and the joking and chaffing that characterised the proceedings were something to remember. The room was a very long, narrow one with wretched acoustic properties, and some three hundred or more were present. Still their stentorian lungs when united in song made day hideous, and it was enough to raise the roof. Some good-humoured speeches were made and my health was cordially drunk—prohibition city—and I was asked, after a hearty welcome, to say something of my impressions of Canada. This

was a tall order, but as it was a rather free and easy function, I felt at home, and was quite prepared to do my share of the badinage, and had a jolly good innings. After thanking them for our very pronounced welcome, I said I was rather sceptical of the company, as from the boisterous nature of the proceedings I thought Bedlam had broken loose, and that we should congratulate ourselves it was a prohibition country, otherwise, well, I wondered what might not have happened! Everything was taken in good spirit. I told them that Canada was great, but they must not think that the Sun only rose and set on their country! There were other places in the world worth knowing. Loud cries of "Where?" Why, Australia—little Tasmania, where we do get a glimpse now and then of old Sol! However, I did not wish to make odious comparisons, and assured them that if I were not an Australian I would like to be a Canadian! That was the climax, and I sat down amidst great cheering and musical honours. It was an amusing function, and both Fred, Moore and I quite appreciated it, and had our hands nearly shaken off at the conclusion of the luncheon, and all best wishes and good luck extended to us. What I said was not reported, but what I did not say was—I suppose, the reporter thought I should have said it. Still, as it was a big room, my real sentiments may not have reached the Press.

The show ground is prettily situated, and the grounds well laid out—immense buildings for trade exhibits and good ones for stock, most of which were very creditable. The stand is commodious, and the oval for parading and horse exhibitions, with good trotting track also around it, was all that could be desired. Some of the cowboys riding unbroken horses was a very attractive feature, and their success in sticking on bucking horses was loudly applauded. Heavy rains for four days interfered with the attendance, but did not dampen the ardour or enthusiasm of the genial President or his energetic committee.

COST OF LIVING.

Since my articles have been appearing I have been asked if my views on the cost of living in Canada were not exaggerated, and if there were not more reasonable hotels. It must be remembered that my own personal experiences only are being chronicled, and our hosts invariably selected the best available places for us, with the result that they were generally the most expensive, and our short stay in any city gave us no opportunity of seeking more reasonable terms. There are, of course, lots of hotels where

the rooms are less costly, but in these places the cost of the board differs very little. Some private boarding establishments in Vancouver, we heard, were much more reasonable—probably would reduce one's expenses by half—but that is when one is staying for a few weeks. Rents are fearfully high, and though workers get high wages and salaries, it is not the most roseate time for them with such abnormally high prices that everywhere prevail.

THE TURF.

Although there was some racing in distant parts of Canada during our stay, no opportunity was afforded to attend any of the meetings, so that no answer can be given to many queries as to my impressions formed of the good old pastime there. Unfortunately, too, we were unable to make any comparisons between the management of Canadian and Australian racing. I did see some rather weedy looking blood horses galloping at the Vancouver show, but I should be sorry to think they were specimens of the best style of racehorses there.

THE POST OFFICE.

The postal and telegraphic arrangements I thought were well up-to-date, and although many delays and short deliveries took place, still, on the whole, it was generally satisfactory. The telephone services might be improved, but seeing the thousands who use this means of communication the waits are not more irritating than we experienced in our own country. We found it very difficult in asking the 'phone office for information to understand the reply. Anyone who has had experience with the American accent of lady officers will appreciate what I mean. If one calls up a number and it is not available, the reply is "busy," not "engaged" as we say. What a saving of breath and time! Patience is an essential virtue in Canada as well as in Tasmania!

IN CHINATOWN.

One evening we paid a visit to Chinatown on the outskirts of Vancouver, and had a novel experience. It is not very inviting, but certainly savoury. We visited several of their shops, all out of inquisitiveness, saw the usual amount of gambling going on, for John is nothing if not an ardent speculator. It was amusing to watch the faces as the croupiers raked in the dollars. Although not new to me our party were most anxious to see the Chinese Theatre, and we managed, after a little palming, to get good seats, and tolerated the awful caterwauling and the "tom tom" music for about an hour. I am not sure whether it was a drama or farce. There was only one scene, but the

stage manager would move the chairs into different positions, and put up certain hieroglyphics; I suppose to let the audience know what was going on. It was worse than Greek to us, but the audience seemed to understand and looked on quite complacently. Our patience eventually was exhausted, and when we retired no one had been killed, but some diabolical tragedy we were told was coming. We escaped it, and fresh air was never more welcome to us as we left the theatre and Chinatown behind us.

A REFRESHMENT ROOM INNOVATION.

A much up-to-date and rather superior refreshment saloon we visited in Vancouver is worth noticing. There were dozens of small tables to seat two or four, on each of which was a telephone and the menu. No waitresses were in attendance. Having decided on one's requirements, the order is sent by telephone to the serving room, and soon the waitress appears with tray and the ordered fare and account, which is paid at the cashier's desk on retiring. It is very novel and quiet—saves waitresses and also tips.

THE YANKEE BRIDEGROOM.

One of my Masonic friends was giving me some of his experiences when travelling, and one incident greatly amused me. He was journeying from Winnipeg to Vancouver, and happened to get into the Observation car, and sat down next to a newly-married couple—the bride very charming, but the groom one of the untravelled, but objectionable Yankees, which are, fortunately, not too numerous. They were strangers to the road, and the bride was inquisitive and seeking information about different places en route. My friend was very polite, and agreeable, being glad to enlighten the lady, who was most gracious, much to the annoyance of the groom, who was very boorish and rather resented the unsought intimacy of my friend and the bride. The green-eyed monster was very pronounced. All subjects were touched on, even the war, and "what we did," etc. My friend was a bit angry at the aggressive groom, and waited his opportunity for the retort courteous. Coming to a small town, he said to the bride, in a tone of voice audible to all in the car, "Now this is one of the most historically interesting places on the line." Naturally, her inquisitiveness was aroused, and in response he told her that when volunteers were asked for to go to the front, there were only 55 eligible men in the town, and 54 of them had volunteered! "That was splendid," said the girl. "But what became of the 55th man?" sneered the groom. "Oh!" said my

friend, "He was an American!" That broke up the party, and my friend modestly went to his bunk!

DAYLIGHT SAVING.

The two times—which ruled in many places in Canada—were responsible for many worries. The railway kept the standard time, and some of the big cities adopted the daylight saving, though what was all right in Victoria was all wrong in Vancouver, a few hours apart. When we had to keep an appointment there was always a chance if we went by train of being an hour late. It was very confusing, and the mistakes made were often rather ludicrous. What with alteration of clocks, owing to change of longitude, standard time and daylight saving, we often wondered where we were. Fancy being roused out at 7 a.m. to catch the 6.30 a.m. train! Looks weird! But one gets there all the same.

ABOARD THE NIAGARA.

Towards the conclusion of our stay at Vancouver we were getting quite familiar with the city and its surroundings, but the rain which set in very much interfered with our outdoor engagements. Notwithstanding that, our friends found opportunities to give us a good send-off, which we greatly appreciated. As the day came for our departure by the Niagara, sincerely as we regretted leaving so many well-wishers behind, whose hospitality and attention had contributed so materially to our pleasure, we were not sorry, after our strenuous but delightful experiences, when we boarded our steamer at Vancouver for Australia, homeward bound to our dear relatives and friends at the Antipodes.

FOR HOME.

Our return voyage by the good ship Niagara, in the capable hands of Captain Rolls, and fine staff of officers and engineers, was made under fairly pleasant conditions. Certainly we were delayed at the start, having to go to Seattle for fuel, where we could not land—a United States port. We had a few hours at Victoria before finally taking leave of Canada, and enjoyed the stay immensely, as we met some of our former friends, and with them had a delightful drive around the parks and suburbs, impressing once more upon our minds the beautiful surroundings of the city. We waved our friends out of sight, and with ever kindly thoughts of all our Canadian friends, steamed out on to the broad Pacific.

After a couple of days of pretty choppy seas, which incommoded many of the passengers for a few days, we settled down, and on the whole the trip was an exceptionally fine one. We had a pleasant day at Honolulu, meeting former friends,

who were exceedingly kind to us, and we again enjoyed seeing the surf bathing, also the beautiful scenery and surroundings. At Fiji—we arrived after dusk and the usual delays occurred before we landed—again we met some Tasmanians, including Captain Boyes, Acting Commandant, and who was very friendly with our Governor's brother. A good run to Auckland, and a couple of days' delay here, enabled us to renew old acquaintances. I visited Mr. Tibbs's fine public school of over 200 scholars. The school is on the slope of Mount Eden. He is now head master, a position he has filled with great honour and success for nearly twenty years. It was gratifying to find a Tasmanian scholar occupying so honourable a position. It was very cold and showery here.

I visited the racecourse again with Mr. Spence, the energetic secretary, and saw the splendid nurseries and the wealth of blooms and variety of colour of the cyclamens, which was a sight to gladden the eye; saw through the totalisator building, and can only reiterate my previous conclusions to the perfectness of the appointments and the fine course, with its picturesque surroundings, and

was sorry to miss seeing the enthusiastic president, Mr. Mitchelmore, who was ill.

We had a fine weather run to Sydney, which was reached at an early hour on Monday, October 11, and, after the usual Customs and immigration inspections, were glad once more to tread on Australian soil—a couple of days' march nearer home. Amongst the passengers were only a few of the Press delegates, and Hon. W. A. Watt and his wife, who were returning from England. We had a really nice lot of people aboard, and the greatest harmony prevailed. After a couple of days spent pleasantly in Sydney, where we met many friends and relatives, we were fortunate in catching the direct boat, Manuka, on Tuesday evening, which landed us in Hobart very comfortably soon after 6 p.m. on Thursday, October 14, where a large number of friends and well-wishers welcomed us back to the home and people we loved so well. The splendid receptions we have since been accorded have made our homecoming most realistic and indelibly impressed upon our hearts the glorious and memorable tour through Canada with the Imperial Press delegates, and our return to

“HOME, SWEET HOME.”



AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Amongst the many valuable souvenirs received during our visit to Canada were the very interesting illustrated pamphlets from the C.P.R. Company, those invaluable booklets issued by the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto, and by the Civic Administration of the same city; also a similarly compiled work relating to the harbour and city of Victoria, official papers from the Government at Ottawa, information regarding the Canadian Repatriation scheme, and details of the working of the Macdonald College of Agriculture at Quebec. There were also interesting books containing a history of Canada issued by the Dominion Government, and illustrated booklets of the cities of Edmonton and Montreal.

One of the most valued and historically interesting works dealing with Canadian cities and other features of interest that were so thoughtfully placed at the disposal of the writer was one issued by the "Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay" to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the granting of the Royal Charter. This book, which is really a work of art, is both beautifully illustrated and printed. There are coloured photographs of Prince Rupert, the first Governor, and Sir Robert Molesworth Kindersley, the present Governor of the company. A sketch of more than ordinary interest is a facsimile of the first sheet of the company's charter, there is a photograph of the first Baron Strathcona and Mount Royal, pictures of dog sleighs, Indians, Eskimos, historic places, wild animals, whose presence added to the settlers' dangers, some of the old forts, stores, and factories, and other prominent features associated with this venturesome and successful enterprise. As may be supposed, many of the details in the book relate to the illustrations mentioned. May 2, 1920, was the two hundred and fif-

tieth anniversary of the granting of the charter by King Charles II. to "The Governor and Company of Adventurers trading into Hudson's Bay." Little by little, trading posts were established from east to west, and from north to south of Northern Canada. In those early days the company was brought into close touch with the Indians, of whose characteristics, traditions, and mode of life some account is given. No army was maintained by the company, yet with the exception of trifling outbreaks there has been continuous peace with the Redskins. The origin and growth of the company were of course bound up in the fur trade, and a chapter is devoted to the fur-bearing animals, and their peculiarities and characteristics are minutely explained. Every one at all familiar with the history of this great enterprise knows that there were long conflicts with the French, and difficulties with Russia and the United States, and these are described at length. Mention is made of the surrender by the company to the Queen of England of some of the original rights under the charter in order that territory that the company had ruled might be transferred to the people of Canada. With the rapid growth of Canadian cities there came the need and the opportunity for providing for the varied wants of the new population, which led to the establishment of numerous department stores. The present committee claims to be the custodian of a great inheritance, which it considers is its duty to hand on, enhanced and not impaired, to future generations, and it recognises that the future welfare depends upon the efficiency of the service it renders to the country it has helped to make. In addition to its interest as being a souvenir of a memorable occasion, this book is a valuable memento of a company that has achieved great things.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE

IMPRESSIONS OF THE DOMINION

Many of those sceptics, who at the first assemblage of the Fourth Estate of the Empire in London in 1909, failed to recognise that any good was likely to result, have since been candid enough to admit that their pessimism was groundless. They thought that any possible achievement of the conference would be only ephemeral, and that after the first flourish of trumpets it would pass into oblivion. By those most concerned, however, it was considered to be an occasion of great importance, one that might be made a point of departure for a new and perhaps an epoch-making development. The movement was unique in the history of the Empire, and exemplified the peculiar character of the bonds between the Motherland and the Dominions, which are as light as air, but which, let us hope, will always be as strong as "hooks of steel."

The first meeting and collaboration of those who largely help to shape opinion in the Empire added very materially to knowledge of the trend of thought on many subjects in its various parts, and thus afforded very valuable guidance for Imperial statesmen, with whom they were constantly in contact, and who, it was thought, had often failed to get into touch with the sentiment and opinion of the outlying parts of the Empire. The representatives of the Imperial Press held many and varied opinions, but as the conditions and tendencies of their several countries became better known, the impression made upon all fully justified the forethought and wisdom of those who had inspired the convocation. Indeed, so satisfied were the representatives of the advantages which resulted to the Press and the people from the first conference, that a unanimous decision was arrived at to hold a periodical meeting every four or five years. It was quite expected that the powerful Canadian Press would follow England's example, and endeavour to emulate the magnificent hospitality of our English confreres and arrange for the next conference to be held in Canada. The unhappy and protracted war necessitated the long postponement, but soon after the armistice the anticipated invitation to Canada for 1920 was received, and in July, August and September the second Imperial Press Conference was held. The brief outline of this large and very important assemblage of Press representatives which has been publish-

ed will doubtless have indicated the advantages likely to accrue from the increase of knowledge of the Empire gained by the collaboration of men from all parts whose business it is to deal with public opinion. It has been frequently pointed out that there needed to be a proper understanding of each other by the peoples of all parts of the Empire. It is a bond of sentiment which now keeps us all united, and this is certainly the strongest bond of all, and to assure its permanence opportunity should be given for its exercise and occasions given for its display. What better means to that end could there have been than these great gatherings of the Press, the Statesmen and the People under such splendid auspices? The sentiment is based upon kinship and common interests, all belonging to the British Empire and having the same customs and aspirations—in fact, being members of the one family. The Press Conference placed beyond doubt the fact that throughout Canada, as in the other Dominions and Colonies, there is a strong sense of loyalty to the Mother Country, and a determination to preserve a united and well organised Empire. It is unnecessary to add anything further as to the valuable results of the Press Conference, for, apart altogether from personal matters, there has been a marked tendency to reaffirm the power and increasing importance of the Press as a potent factor in protecting the interests and furthering the welfare of the people and maintaining friendly relations throughout the Empire.

To those zealous and enthusiastic Canadians, especially Lord Atholstan and Mr. C. F. Crandall, the energetic secretary, who had the control and management of this historic event, and to all who so magnanimously co-operated with them, the Press delegates were greatly indebted, while the whole party cordially recognised the invaluable assistance the presence and support of Lord Burnham exercised on every movement throughout the conference. Very sincere congratulations have been rightly accorded them upon the magnificent success which attended their efforts, whilst the people as a whole cannot fail to appreciate the benefits that have been rendered them by the publicity given to their country, the conditions under which they live, and their national aspirations.

The Press of Canada differs widely from that of the Old Country, as with few exceptions the good old English traditions are ignored. Few of their methods appealed to us, perhaps because we are too conservative in our ideas. Magnifying or sensationalising local news seems to be most favoured, and little prominence is given to criticisms of national or Empire news. The production of many of the newspapers is certainly wonderful, both in size and get up. Their comic (?) cuts and illustrations seem to be a great attraction which, though uninteresting to many, please advertisers, who patronise the papers to a marvellous extent to the special advantage of the proprietors, and presumably also to themselves, for they monopolise many pages daily. Canada possesses most capable writers, but the newspapers, apparently, do not depend upon them for their influence and success, and this is a distinct loss to the community. In Australia, of course, there are fewer weeklies and magazines for serious reading, and people rely more upon the daily paper.

No one who had the opportunity of seeing Canada under such happy conditions could fail to be impressed with its magnitude and its immense resources. It is wonderfully favoured with its great rivers and lakes, its electric power, its extensive prairies and fertile land, all of which conjoined, and in the hands of a most enterprising people, have made it the greatest of the Dominions—a Dominion of which the Empire should be proud. The railways of Canada, of which so many are marvels of engineering skill and wonderful contrivance, have so advantageously affected the opening up of the country and developed its agricultural and great mineral resources, and promoted its manufactures, that they are its greatest asset. They have been designed with the keenest foresight and are, so far as could be learned, worked to such immense advantage that the rolling stock resources of their 40,000 miles are taxed to the fullest extent. Industries have been developed wonderfully during the past ten years, and the next ten years are expected to enlarge the country's wealth and population by fifty per cent. Like Australia, Canada wants population and capital. The burden of most of the addresses which the Press delegates listened to was immigration for land settlement, and the investment of British capital to aid in the further development of the Dominion's great resources. Though sympathetic, we felt that the needs of other parts of the Empire were, unfortunately, the same, and the scattered seed would not produce much fruit. No one who lives in Australia and realised its present great possibilities, could seriously advocate emigration from our shores to Canada, de-

spite its many allurements. Canada has many advantages and lots of drawbacks; and so has Australia, but preference will invariably be given to our own country. In England great inducements are offered to emigrants to adopt Canada, and the five days' steam between the two countries certainly influences would-be settlers to first try their fortunes there, rather than face the long voyage to Australia and extended separation from home and friends. It is a big venture to come here, and requires no small degree of moral courage. Insufficient is done by Tasmania to inspire confidence in desirable English emigrants to try their fortunes in this part of the world.

The Canadians are an energetic, enterprising and confident people—thoroughly and rightly impressed with the importance of their own country, which its great and increasing prosperity fully justifies. The people go in for amusements, and, like Australia, indulge in all sorts of sports and pastimes, and enter full heartedly into them. They are friendly and cordial, pleased to hold out the right hand of good fellowship to all, and especially to loyal subjects of the Empire. Amongst the public men we met many of striking ability, but on the whole, so far as could be judged, Australia would not suffer by comparison. Kindly, courteous and considerate, was the verdict as far as the women were concerned, and to their combined thoughtfulness and attention must be attributed much of the enjoyment and success which characterised the social functions of the conference. This was warmly acknowledged by our own womenfolk. Tradespeople were mostly obliging and patient, but the hotel waiters and other dependents were as a rule inattentive and sometimes boorish. The system of tipping is greatly responsible for a deal of this, and looks like becoming intensified, unless the waiters are paid better by their employers and made to rely less upon largesse.

The verdict of all who attended the Conference was that this Canadian Press enterprise, so lavishly supported by the Dominion and the different State Governments, was a huge success, and its organisation wonderfully complete. A desire has been expressed that the next Imperial Press Conference shall be held in 1924-5 in Australia. It is an immense undertaking, and providing the Commonwealth and State Governments co-operate, the people of Australia will doubtless be pleased to join in the welcome. Indeed, no better advertisement could be given of Australia's resources, its people, its climate, and natural attractions, than the publicity which would follow a visit from the leading Press representatives of all parts of our great Empire.



REVIOUS to his departure to the Imperial Press Conference at Ottawa, Canada, in August and September, 1920, the Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., Managing Proprietor of the "Hobart Mercury" and "Tasmanian Mail," one of the invited Press Delegates, was the recipient of many personal congratulations and good wishes. The expressions of appreciation of his good services in various capacities to the people of Tasmania were emphasised at special gatherings which assembled to do him honour. These were duly recorded in the Press reports, which are reproduced as under:—

THE MISSION OF HON. C. E. DAVIES

VALUE OF IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCES

Commercial men of Hobart assembled at the Imperial Hotel yesterday afternoon, at the invitation of the president and council of the Chamber of Commerce, to wish bon voyage to Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., who is leaving Tasmania on Saturday to attend the Imperial Press Conference in Canada. Mr. M. Kennedy (president of the Chamber) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. L. J. Crozier (vice-president), R. G. Rogers (Master Warden of the Marine Board), H. L. D'Emden (Deputy Postmaster-General), Hon. Jas. Murdoch, M.L.C., Hon. J. W. Evans, C.M.G., M.H.A., Alderman C. H. Lamprill, Messrs. H. J. Wise, L. M. Shoobridge, R. Davidson, W. D. Peacock, J. A. Cuthbertson, R. Gibbings, J. H. Gillies, J. R. Crane, M. Susman, J. Adams, H. Wilson, W. H. Cummins, J. R. Chapman, R. M. Harvey, A. G. Kemp, V. Chambers, and H. H. Cummins (secretary of the chamber).

Afternoon tea having been served, the President explained the object of the gathering, and went on to say it was a great honour to Tasmania for Mr. Davies to receive an invitation from the Canadian Press to attend the Imperial Press Conference. In Mr. Davies they were sending one of the most representative men who could go from Tasmania. (Applause.) He hardly liked to tell them how long Mr. Davies had been connected with the press. (Laughter.) But he would let them into the secret. As far as he could tell them, Mr. Davies and the late Sir George Davies took over "The Mercury" business from their father some 48 years ago, and they had carried it on with great ability, so much so that "The Mercury" was now one of the most successful of the newspapers in Australia. The plant at "The Mercury" office was really a credit to the firm, and to Tasmania, and he had been told by people from the mainland who had looked over

it that, for its capacity, it was second to none in Australia. (Applause.) The proprietors took advantage of every mechanical improvement that could be obtained in newspaper and general printing. Some splendid special numbers of "The Mercury" had been issued, one of the most notable of which was the Tasmanian centenary number in 1903. He remembered that on the morning it was issued he met a "Mercury" runner and remarked on the fact that he seemed very heavily laden. "Yes," the runner replied, "I hope there will be no more centenaries of Tasmania while I am carrying papers for 'The Mercury'." (Laughter.) Mr. Davies was one of the oldest members of the Chamber of Commerce, and was at the head of one of the oldest established businesses in Tasmania, his father having taken it over 66 years ago. Mr. Davies need not think he would get away from "The Mercury" when he went abroad. Whenever he (Mr. Kennedy) went to the mainland cities, he always met men who had been trained on the staff of "The Mercury," and who were doing well, and he was certain that when Mr. Davies got to Canada somebody would go up to him and say, "Don't you remember me? I used to be at 'The Mercury'." The president then proposed the health of Mr. Davies, and wished him a pleasant voyage and speedy return. (Applause.)

The toast was enthusiastically drunk with musical honours.

Hon. C. E. Davies, in reply, said he highly appreciated the thoughtfulness prompting the invitation to meet members of the Chamber of Commerce prior to his departure for Canada. The president had been extremely kind in calling attention to some of the work done by the firm with which he had been associated for so many years. It had been the pride of his life, and of his

brother's before him, to have worked assiduously and zealously to place "The Mercury" in its present high position, and he was glad to find it recognised throughout Australia. He had been very fortunate, throughout all these years, in having associated with him many splendid men to help in building up the business to its present satisfactory position. (Applause.) He had not come to advertise "The Mercury"—it advertised itself pretty well—but he thought it had become not only a credit to Tasmania, but also a power in Tasmania. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that power was never abused. So far as the recognition of the position of "The Mercury" in the Commonwealth was concerned, he might say that in 1909, when the first Imperial Press Conference was held in London, he had the honour and privilege of representing Tasmania at it. (Applause.) Just before the close of the war, it would be remembered the British Government invited representatives of the leading newspapers of Australia to visit England and France at the expense of the Imperial Government, and record their views on Imperial matters connected with the war. It was a great compliment to Tasmania that the editor of "The Mercury" was one of those selected. (Applause.) That in itself had confirmed the prestige "The Mercury" had attained in Australia. At the Imperial Press Conference in 1909 it had been decided that similar conferences should be held periodically, and had it not been for the war this conference in Canada would have been held four years ago. The Canadian Press had sent invitations to the Australian as well as the English Press, and out of the first eight newspapers selected in Australia he was pleased to say "The Mercury" was one. (Applause.) It was in response to the invitation that he was going on behalf of "The Mercury." Some people who did not study these matters might say: "What is the good of the conference?" They would remember the small amount of information cabled to Australia about ten or twelve years ago, as compared with the present time. In "The Mercury," and other leading newspapers to-day, they found nearly the whole of the paper cabled from other parts of the world. That was the result of the enterprise of the newspaper proprietors of the British Empire and of the Imperial Press Conference in London, at which this question of the dissemination of the latest news throughout the Empire had been dealt with in order that the various parts of the Empire might be brought more in touch with one another. The fact of representatives of the Press meeting together, becoming familiar with each other, and learning the conditions in and

hopes and aspirations of different parts of the Empire was a great advantage, and must have helped the Empire considerably. Whenever he had an opportunity, during his visit to Canada, of representing the views of Tasmania, the conditions under which its people lived, and the advantages it possessed, he would certainly take advantage of it. The power the Press was wielding in the Empire had been more firmly established than ever since the war. The greatest men in England had acknowledged the power of the press in assisting in the counsels of the Empire and the world. Great advantages must accrue from a free and independent Press. (Applause.) He was gratified to meet the members of the Chamber of Commerce, and he hoped their efforts in furthering the interests of commerce would reflect beneficially throughout the State. He thought the prosperity dawning upon Tasmania in the opening up of new industries, and the great advantages Tasmania could offer in this connection, entitled them to look forward to Tasmania becoming an influential and big industrial country. He trusted that when he returned he would find Tasmania and all present happy and prosperous. (Applause.)

The singing of the National Anthem concluded the gathering.

("Mercury," June 17, 1920.)

CITIZENS' MEETING.

A large and representative gathering of citizens assembled in the Council-chamber of Town-hall on June 17, at the invitation of the Mayor of Hobart (Colonel Snowden) to say au revoir and bon voyage to the Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., who leaves to-morrow to attend the Imperial Press Conference in Canada. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Davies. The Mayor presided, and was supported by the Premier (Sir Walter Lee) and the Attorney-General (Hon. W. B. Propsting, C.M.G.), and there were present representatives of the Southern Tasmanian Agricultural Society, Tasmanian Racing Club, Horticultural Society, the Legislative Council, Chamber of Commerce, mining companies, banking and other financial institutions, Marine Board, aldermen, and numerous other representative business men of the city.

The Mayor referred to Mr. Davies' leaving at the end of the present week for Canada to represent Tasmania at the Imperial Press Conference, and said he had thought Hobart should not let Mr. Davies depart without a meeting to wish him bon voyage and a safe return, and at the same time indicating to him the

high esteem in which he was held in the community. (Applause.) The importance of that conference must be apparent to all right-thinking people. There was nothing, he should say, that would more tend to bring about a better understanding between the different parts of the Empire, or calculated to stimulate the Imperial spirit than a large gathering in conference of gentlemen who were guiding the minds of many peoples through the press to the highest ideals of citizenship. No doubt, also, it would lead to many journals in other parts of the world more fully appreciating the high standard of efficiency which was maintained by the press of Australia. He had heard it said by people visiting our shores that there was no part of the world in which the newspaper press exercised more influence on the people for good than in Australia. He thought it would be generally admitted that in our leading journals in Tasmania the highest tone was maintained, and the responsibilities on the part of those conducting them well exercised. And in passing he would like to refer to the wide knowledge and reading that were evinced by those gentlemen who turned out from disjointed sentences, cabled from the other end of the world, interesting and instructive information for the people of the State. Among those gentlemen who maintained that high tone in the press, exercised responsibilities so well and ably directed the policy of his paper, was their respected guest. (Applause.) Addressing Mr. Davies, the Mayor continued: You have, if you will allow me to say so, exercised wisely your personality and abilities in many directions. Whether it has been in politics, or in agricultural and pastoral pursuits, or in relation to sport in this State, you have done good service. In the high office which you hold among the Masonic fraternity, and in the breeding and racing of some of the best horses seen with colours up in Tasmania, you have distinguished yourself, and I would say that with so much all-round knowledge and experience gained, there could not be any person more able, or who would more fittingly represent us at that conference, or one more able to speak of the advantages and requirements of Tasmania than yourself. (Hear, hear.) On behalf of my brother aldermen and myself, representing, as we do, the views of the citizens, we tender our best wishes for a pleasant trip, and a safe return to yourself and Mrs. Davies, feeling sure that the community generally will benefit by the information you will have gained at the conference. (Applause.)

The Premier said it gave him very great pleasure to be present. They could not but regard it as an honour and an

advantage to Tasmania that Mr. Davies had been chosen to represent this State at such an important Empire conference. He felt sure that Mr. Davies would be able to impart to that important gathering much useful information in regard to this State. When he returned, Mr. Davies would be able to tell us in Tasmania things which would be to the State's advantage. He congratulated the Mayor upon having promoted such a representative gathering to wish Mr. Davies au revoir, all hoping that he would have a happy and profitable time, and return safely. (Applause.) If Mr. Davies could take his reporting staff with him, Ministers would enjoy a period of peace. (Laughter.) The reporters were indefatigable in their efforts to gain information from Ministers, and certainly did a fine work, leaving no stone unturned to obtain news for an insatiable public. Reporters generally, as well as the proprietors and editors of newspapers, were performing a great work, to the best of their ability, and doing it well. (Applause.) "The Mercury" stood out prominently among the Australian journals as a paper which maintained high ideals, giving to the public a high standard of tone, always desirous of giving the very best information, thus playing no small or unimportant part in shaping the destinies of Tasmania. On behalf of himself and colleagues, he desired to say that he trusted Mr. and Mrs. Davies would have a happy time on their trip, and a safe return. (Applause.)

Mr. L. M. Shoobridge, on behalf of the members of the Southern Tasmanian A. and P. Society and the Farmers', Stock-owners', and Orchardists' Association, spoke in the same strain. He said that Mr. Davies had long been the President, and was practically the father of their Southern Agricultural Show Society; it was mainly due to his efforts that the society had grown and prospered. (Applause.) No one could convey their good wishes more heartily. (Applause.)

Mr. Jno. Hamilton, speaking on behalf of the Freemasons, said he joined in all the good-will already so well expressed. They knew that the lofty tone of "The Mercury" and its able editorials were due to the inspiration of Mr. Davies. He was proud that Tasmania had such a good paper. Whilst Mr. Davies was away, the Masonic fraternity would greatly miss the benefit of his counsel and advice. (Applause.)

Mr. Thomas Lyons (T.R.C.) said he gladly accepted the Mayor's invitation to be present. He felt that Mr. Davies would most worthily uphold the dignity and interest of Tasmanian journalism at the conference. Mr. Davies was a man of many parts and many activities, being

a leading business man in the community, and the leading newspaper proprietor, his journal being one of the leading newspapers of Australia, owing to the excellent way it was conducted, edited, and reported. Mr. Davies had long been a consistent sportsman, was the head of the Masonic body in Tasmania, and of the Southern Tasmanian A. and P. Society; but he (the speaker) would more especially refer to Mr. Davies as a sportsman. In his earlier years he was an ardent cricketer and chief exponent of "underhand twisters"—(laughter)—a good wicketkeeper and fieldsman, and a competent batsman. (Hear, hear.) He had raced more horses than any other Tasmanian owner, and consequently had had many conquests. He had won all the principal Cups in Tasmania at different periods, and the chief jumping race in Australia—the V.R.C. Grand National Steeplechase—whilst last year one of his horses ran third in one of the greatest races in the world, and certainly the greatest race in Australia—the Melbourne Cup—and it was hoped that the same horse—Two Blues—would next month win the Grand National Hurdle Race. (Applause.) The committee of the T.R.C. were only made aware on Saturday last that Mr. Davies was starting for Canada so soon. Upon approaching him about inviting him to meet representatives of the racing community, they learnt that his time was so fully taken up that it was doubtful whether he would be able to meet them. He (Mr. Lyons) therefore thanked the Mayor for the opportunity, on behalf of those whom he specially attended to represent, of bidding Mr. and Mrs. Davies au revoir and a pleasant trip, hoping that they would find it enjoyable, and would return invigorated to take up afresh the various spheres of usefulness with which they were identified. (Applause.)

Bon voyage and a safe return to Mr. and Mrs. Davies was toasted, with cheers and musical honours.

Hon. C. E. Davies, upon rising to respond, was greeted with warm applause. He said he confessed that he felt overpowered by the very cordial manner in which he had been received and the many kind remarks which had been made about him and his approaching trip to Canada. It was not easy to say farewell, if only for a time, to so many people with whom he had been associated during the greater part of his life. It was especially trying to him that day to meet them all, inasmuch as he had just had to send his children away for the time being. He scarcely knew how to express in sufficiently appreciative language the kindness of His Worship the Mayor in giving him an opportunity of meeting so many lead-

ing people of the city. To learn that one's efforts were approved by those among whom he lived and had worked was a thing to be proud of. (Applause.) Such energy and ability as he possessed he had never begrudged giving in endeavouring to carry out any duty imposed upon him. That he had been in some measure successful, the speakers had been good enough to assure him. He did not appear before them as a politician, though he played his little part in the Legislature of the State; and that his efforts and actions in that way were appreciated, he thought, was shown by his constituents in the Cambridge division, whom he had been proud to represent for 20 years, they having returned him time after time almost unopposed. (Applause.) As to "The Mercury," through the help of those who had been associated with him for many years, it had, as had been said, become a power in the land, and he hoped, as he always desired, that that power had always been, and would be, exercised in the best interests of Tasmania. (Applause.) They had no other object to serve but the promotion of the general welfare, and if their services had been successful they were amply compensated by the support received not only in Tasmania, but throughout Australia. (Hear, hear.) The Premier had playfully suggested that he should take his reporting staff away with him. He dared say Ministers might like it, but he thought that in the interests of the State Ministers required looking after at times. (Laughter and applause.) "The Mercury" had no special partiality for Ministers, whoever they might be, but when they were working in the best interest of the State they would always have the support of "The Mercury"—(applause)—and he thought the Premier and those associated with him recognised that. Ministers might not always be right, and people might say that "The Mercury" was not always right, but though that might be correct—(laughter and applause)—it would not do to say it. (Renewed laughter.) As he said on the previous day, the Press was exercising a much wider influence throughout the Empire than before the war, and public men in England were recognising more and more the great advantages that must accrue to the councils of the Empire from the support and assistance received from the Press—he meant the Imperial Press. (Hear, hear.) The Imperial Press Conference which he was about to attend would be quite as representative as the one he was present at in 1909 in London. Splendid results came from it to the advantage of the Empire and its people, one of which results was the reduction in the cable service charges, which enabled more news from the Old Country and elsewhere to

be published throughout the Empire. (Hear, hear.) Information given to the London Press was now published simultaneously in Australia. (Applause.) In connection with the forthcoming conference, he was told that one of the subjects to be considered was the encouragement of emigration and immigration throughout the Empire, which, if supported by the Press of the Empire, must prove invaluable to Australia. (Applause.) He hoped to have opportunities whilst in Canada and at the conference to speak of the advantages which Tasmania afforded, especially in connection with hydro-electric power from an industrial point of view. (Applause.) He thanked the Mayor for having brought about such a representative gathering to meet him. His efforts had always been to improve the prosperity and increase the happiness of the people of the State, and if he had been so far successful he was handsomely repaid. (Applause.) He hoped and believed that a period of increased prosperity was dawning on the State, and that the Premier and his colleagues would be able to carry such measures through Parliament as would further that end. He sincerely thanked them also for the kind sentiments expressed and so well received with regard to Mrs. Davies. It would be very gratifying to her to learn of the expressions of goodwill and esteem from such a representative gathering. (Applause.)

The proceedings terminated with cheers for Mr. Davies and for the Mayor.

("Mercury," June 18, 1920.)

MASONIC FELICITATIONS.

There was an excellent attendance of representatives of Masonic lodges of the city and several of the country districts at the Masonic-hall on June 17 to express their good wishes and bon voyage to the Hon. C. E. Davies as their Grand Master.

Most Wor. the Pro Grand Master (Bro. H. L. D'Emden) presided, and, afternoon tea having been served, the Chairman said he had called the meeting, feeling sure they would not like their esteemed Grand Master to leave for Canada without having an opportunity of wishing him and Mrs. Davies a pleasant journey and safe return. (Applause.) They were ever mindful of the great interest their Grand Master had always manifested in the Masonic body for so many years, and they knew how ably he had represented the Grand Lodge of Tasmania in other parts of the world which he had been visiting from time to time, always most creditably upholding the dignity of his high Masonic office. So now in going to Canada they felt that the honour of their Grand Lodge was safe in his hands. They

sincerely wished him and Mrs. Davies a pleasant and profitable journey and safe return. (Applause.)

Wor. Bro. J. J. Breen, W.M. of the Tasmanian Union Lodge, to which the Grand Master has always belonged, said the Masons were grateful to their Grand Master for all he had done for Freemasonry in Tasmania. They hoped that the Great Architect of the Universe would bring him and Mrs. Davies back safely and happily. (Applause.)

Rt. Wor. Bro. Jno. Hamilton, Grand Secretary, also spoke. He said the warm welcome of their Grand Master on the part of the Masons of Canada was assured. He (the speaker) was proud of the send-off gathering to Mr. Davies at the Town-hall earlier in the day, in which the Premier, Mayor, and so many prominent citizens took part. (Applause.)

The toast of "bon voyage and safe return" was received with musical honours and cheers.

The Grand Master, who was greeted upon rising with prolonged applause, in thanking all for their fraternal good wishes, said the numerous kind references which had been made to his actions that day and the previous day would have been sufficient to make a younger man very vain, and to him it was naturally a source of much gratification. His desire had always been to do what he could for the betterment of his fellow-men, always aiming at doing what was the right thing to the best of his ability, without having any ulterior personal object. (Applause.) Apart from his domestic life, his happiest associations had been in connection with Masonry, and he had been greatly encouraged by the splendid support he had always received from Masons all over the State. (Applause.) He had hoped, at their request, to be the messenger of goodwill and fraternal regard to their Rt. Wor. Bro. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales during his visit to Tasmania, and to present him with an address from the Masons of the State, but he would have to start for Canada before the Royal visit. He knew, however, that the presentation of the address would be in good hands, and that they would accord their illustrious and Rt. Wor. Brother that true Masonic greeting which, it was certain, they all desired to extend to him. Possibly he might meet the Prince during the few days he would be in Sydney, and, if so, he would take the opportunity of conveying his personal good wishes to His Royal Highness, and assure him that he could anticipate receiving a most cordial welcome from the brethren when he arrived in Tasmania. He was hopeful of having the opportunity of visiting some of the Grand Lodges of Canada and America. The

previous time he went that way he met many prominent Masons, but having to rush through he was prevented accepting the hospitality of several lodges. He hoped, when he came back, to be able to afford the brethren some interesting information concerning Masonry in Canada and America. He greatly appreciated meeting so many brethren that afternoon. There was every prospect of Freemasonry progressing in the State. He thanked them for so kindly mentioning Mrs. Davies, and assured them that she would appreciate very much the kindly wishes extended to her. (Applause.)

Among numerous apologies forwarded were expressions of good wishes from the Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. R. S. Scott, Rt. Wor. Bro. R. J. Sadler (Launceston), Rt. Wor. Bro. Ramsay (Devonport), Wor. Bro. Sir Elliott Lewis, Bro. Sir Walter Lee, etc.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Pro Grand Master for convening the meeting and presiding, and the singing of the National Anthem.

MEETING OF "THE MERCURY" EMPLOYEES.

Over 200 past and present employees at "The Mercury" Office assembled in the Mayor's courtroom of the Town-hall on Friday afternoon to wish the Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., and Mrs. Davies bon voyage and a safe return upon their departure for Canada in connection with the Imperial Press Conference. Mr. Davies had already been "farewelled" (by the Chamber of Commerce, by a representative gathering of citizens at the Town-hall, called by the Mayor, and by the Masonic body. The Mayor's courtroom was nicely decorated for the occasion, Mr. Davies's racing colours being prominent, and "The Mercury" orchestra, led by Mr. Caddie, supplied the music. The literary, commercial and clerical, mechanical, and artists' staffs were fully represented.

Mr. Walter H. Cummins, the acting-manager, presided, and, in opening the proceedings, said they had met to wish Mr. and Mrs. Davies a very pleasant voyage to Canada, a useful and happy time there, and a safe return. (Applause.) Mr. Davies had already received the good wishes of public bodies and citizens, and now his employees desired to also express similar good wishes. (Applause.) Mr. Davies must feel proud, in looking around the room, to see such a large gathering of happy and smiling faces, and to observe to what a big family the employees of "The Mercury" establishment as a whole had grown. Mr. Davies was going to a country where the conduct of newspapers was very different from what it was in

Australia, and the comparison was not to our disadvantage, the papers there being partisan journals on one side or the other. "The Mercury" was conducted on very different lines, and he was sure that all present were proud to be associated with so great a newspaper, so honourably conducted. (Applause.) Numerous kind things had already been said this week of Mr. Davies and the great paper he conducted; they were not really flattering statements, inasmuch as they were well earned. (Hear, hear.) Those present had done their best, under Mr. Davies's direction, guidance, and help, to raise "The Mercury" to the level it had attained, and they felt proud of his having sufficient confidence in them to leave them for a while, and they assured him that when he returned he would find them just as attentive to their work and as happy as when he left. (Applause.)

Mr. W. H. Simmonds, the editor, said the bringing out of "The Mercury" had not for many years been the only branch of the big establishment under Mr. Davies's direction and guidance. In addition, he was identified with very many institutions and interests in the State, political, agricultural, sporting, and so on, and already during the week different sections in the community had met and said many things of him which must have been extremely pleasant to him to hear; so his employees now desired to add their own expressions of appreciation and good wishes. It was a great compliment to them as employees that Mr. Davies felt able to go abroad and leave the different branches of the establishment to run, as it were, by themselves. It meant that a great deal of good guidance had been put into the whole concern. He was reminded of some verses, entitled "The Man we get the Money From," supposed to have been written by a little boy whose father was so immersed in business that the little chap saw very little of him, and the boy said—

"Sometimes I can't help thinking
It would be a better plan,
If we could have the money, and do
without the man."

(Laughter.) What a contrast the position in "The Mercury" Office was with that in Russia under Bolshevism! As to that, the latest information was that, after all, the Bolsheviks could not get on without "the man," and consequently former managers of concerns and many former employers were now really getting more money than under the old regime, showing that it was not practicable to conduct great businesses without the real "man" at the head. (Hear, hear.) As Mr. Davies's father, who was the founder of "The Mercury," predicted, the paper had

taken the lead in the press of the State, and the great secret of its success was its independence, with the necessary one guiding mind, possessed of shrewdness, enterprise, sagacity, prudence, public spirit, honesty, and vigilance. No better testimony to those qualities being successfully applied in the conduct of "The Mercury" could be obtained than had been shown in the speeches of representative people, who had publicly met to bid Mr. Davies au revoir and bon voyage. He (Mr. Simmonds) had always found him open-minded, patriotic, sympathetic, and a strong supporter of the Empire, always ready to assist in appeals of a philanthropic kind, and to support every movement which he recognised was for the good of the State. He had a wonderful way of giving inspiration and information, and what he did not know about Tasmanian politics was not worth knowing. They all wished to assure him and Mrs. Davies of their best wishes for a pleasant voyage, an enjoyable time in Canada, and a safe return. (Applause.) They hoped that when he returned he would find everything running smoothly and prosperously. (Loud applause.) He had very great pleasure in proposing the health of Mr. and Mrs. Davies, wishing them bon voyage and a safe return. (Applause.)

The toast was accorded musical honours and repeated rounds of cheering.

Mr. Davies, who was received with cheers, said he had attended some very pleasant meetings during the previous two days in connection with his departure, but none gave him greater pleasure than to meet his employees, who included so many who had been associated with him on the paper and in the work of the office for so many years. (Applause.) His life had been spent among a great proportion of them; and as to the younger hands, he hoped they would grow up and maintain the same interest in their work as their seniors. It was a source of great gratification to him to have been told repeatedly during the last few days that his services in the community were highly appreciated, especially as he could conscientiously say that he had no ulterior objects in any of his efforts beyond striving for the good of the community. (Applause.) He felt that it must also be

gratifying to all connected with the establishment to learn that their employer, who had occupied that position for so many years, and previously in conjunction with his late dear brother, had earned so much public good-will. (Applause.) He was going away for a brief period, but he had never before taken his departure abroad with more confidence and satisfaction than this time. He felt particularly fortunate in having as the heads of the editorial, commercial, and mechanical staffs, and in other subsidiary branches, men of special ability, reliability, and thoroughly loyal to the office in the positions they occupied. (Applause.) Men who had been trained on the literary staff of "The Mercury" occupied positions on the leading metropolitan journals of the mainland, and as far as the mechanical department was concerned, a man getting to the mainland need only say he came from "The Mercury" to obtain a position in any printing office in Australia. (Applause.) He often regretted such men leaving, but he was always glad to see them striving to get on in the world, and whenever an employee sought a position in another State it had always been his desire to help him to get it. (Applause.) During his absence, he felt confident that he could rely on the loyalty of the several staffs, and of the heads of their particular departments. (Applause.) He thanked Mr. Cummins and Mr. Simmonds for their expressions of good wishes also towards Mrs. Davies, and he hoped they would return to find everything going smoothly and prosperously; also that good health, happiness, and prosperity would attend every one of them. (Loud applause.)

The proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem, and cheers for the King, and Mr. and Mrs. Davies shook hands with those present as they went out.

The Hon. C. E. Davies received several messages from the mainland wishing him a pleasant trip. The Governor of West Australia (Sir Francis Newdegate) telegraphed:—"Best wishes for your and Mrs. Davies's enjoyment of visit to America and happy return." Also a letter from the Governor-General (Sir R. Munro Ferguson), conveying good wishes.

("Mercury," June 18, 1920.)

AT SYDNEY

From a private letter, one hears that Hon. C. E. and Mrs. Davies had a beautifully smooth trip to Sydney, and an equally pleasant one to Auckland in the Niagara. They arrived at the latter place on Monday, June 28. Being favoured with very sunny weather, they had ample opportunity to view the picturesque surroundings in this very attractive city. The golf links, parks, sports grounds, and the racecourse were visited, and these greatly impressed the visitors. The hilly nature of the place with its prettily situated dwellings enabled beautiful views to be obtained of the harbour, rivers, and undulating country. The green pastures everywhere were a striking contrast at the present time to Australia. The steamer did not leave Auckland till Wednesday afternoon, with a very full passenger list.

During their few days in Sydney, the travellers had a fairly busy time. The beautiful illuminations in the city and harbour made the place most gorgeous, the most attractive display being in Macquarie-street, which was brilliant and a veritable fairyland. In Pitt and George streets there was a blaze of variegated light of fantastical and effective designs. The outline of the railway station with its rows of red lights was exceptionally brilliant, but then everything looked so fine that it seems invidious to specialise. The harbour illuminations were perfection, and its natural beauties or attractions added greatly to the weirdness of the scene. The moving boats about the waters imparted to the scene an appearance of animation. On the Tuesday the visitors were invited to Government House to luncheon and expected to meet the Prince there, but owing to the crush at the gate their motor was so delayed

that they passed him as he came out of the grounds, which was a disappointment, as His Excellency had thoughtfully arranged for their presentation. In the evening they were invited to attend the gala entertainment at Her Majesty's Theatre, where the Prince attended with the Governor-General and the Governor. It was a brilliant assemblage, the theatre being most beautifully decorated from ceiling to floor with floral designs and electric light. The audience was most enthusiastic, and the Prince received several ovations. On the following evening Lady Davidson very thoughtfully got invitations for Mr. and Mrs. Davies for the Queen's Club ball in the Town-hall, another splendid function which the Prince attended and took part in. The vice-regal party were received by the president and ladies, and a cordon was formed down the centre of the room, through which the Prince and vice-regal party walked to the dais. It was well arranged, and the utmost enthusiasm pervaded the function. The hall was prettily decorated, and the arrangements throughout were perfect. Various private appointments were crowded into a short period, and Mr. and Mrs. Davies must have been relieved, after such a strenuous time, to get some rest on the good ship Niagara as she steamed away from Sydney on the Thursday afternoon. Both were very well and had a hearty send-off by many friends. They also received a large batch of cables and telegrams wishing them bon voyage and a safe return, the not least appreciated being one from the Governor-General, who is himself to leave in September, and whose departure will be a great loss to Australia.

("The Tasmanian Mail," July 15, 1920.)

RETURN OF HON. C. E. DAVIES

IMPERIAL PRESS CONGRESS.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE DELEGATES.

Several of the Australian delegates to the recent Imperial Press Congress at Ottawa arrived in Sydney on Monday by the Niagara, and the Tasmanian representative (Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C.) and Mrs. Davies returned by the Manuka last evening, after a splendid sea voyage and a most enjoyable, interesting, but strenuous time.

The comments made by Mr. Knight, of Brisbane, are generally endorsed by the delegates. He said the conference was likely to bear good fruit. The question of paper supplies was one of the most important matters with which the conference had to deal. It was quite obvious from the remarks made following the introduction of his motion that the position in Australia, so far as newsprint was concerned, was in the nature of a revelation. The fact that Viscount Burnham (chairman of the congress) at the conclusion of the debate called forward the representative of those firms with newsprint interests in Canada and impressed upon him the need for representation to his principals of Australia's extreme position, indicated the surprise which the delegates generally felt that Australia had suffered so long and so seriously, and yet so silently. From what he had gathered during the trip out the question of paper supplies was likely to be very much easier for the next 18 months, although the burden of cost would not be eased to any extent. As a matter of fact an extra 30,000 tons of newsprint would be diverted from America to Australia during the coming year. The Australian delegates, who dominated the whole conference, could congratulate themselves on having accomplished such good work. Another matter of the greatest importance to the commercial community, as well as to the press, was the adoption of special resolutions regarding the reduction of cable and telegraphic charges—that more support should be given to wireless communication, which, if adopted, would, it was urged, very materially facilitate the expedition by relieving the cables. The Empire Press Union will urge these matters upon the British Government, and they will later be put before the different countries interested. A reduced postage was also advocated, and these two important subjects will have the earliest attention of the executive of the Press Union.

In regard to organisation, the tour was a masterpiece. No one could imagine

anything more perfect, nor could one imagine any welcome being more warm than that which was given to the delegates by the Canadians. If the delegates had been so many crowned heads they could not have been treated with greater cordiality, or made to feel more at home. They were given ample opportunities of seeing the Canadians, both at work and play. The delegates travelled for the most part in two special trains, one of which was supplied by the great C.P.R. and the other by the Canadian National. Each train carried a doctor and a nurse, a full staff of typists, and a library, and full provision was made for dining. Whenever the delegates left the train to take up their quarters in hotels the quarters were always the very best.

In discussing other subjects not directly bearing on the work of the Press Congress, Mr. Knight said that perhaps the most striking impression he had formed was that Canada was being rapidly Americanised, and Americanised from Wall-street. Canada herself was most remarkable in her allegiance to the Motherland and in her loyalty to the flag, yet quietly and speedily her industries, and to a very large extent her institutions, were being Americanised. Canada felt she must have capital from somewhere, and since it was most easily obtained from America she accepted it from that source. The Japanese question in Canada was not regarded seriously, and as far as British Columbia (where much Japanese and Chinese labour is employed) was concerned, the attitude of California, as far as its criticism reflected on British Columbia, was resented. In the industrial centres round about the Great Lakes the alien population—the coloured people—represented 75 to 80 per cent. of the whole.

("Mercury," October 15, 1920.)

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GATHERING.

There was a large and representative gathering, under the auspices of the Hobart Chamber of Commerce, at the Imperial Hotel yesterday afternoon, to welcome Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., on his return from the Imperial Press Conference in Canada. Mr. Malcolm Kennedy (president) occupied the chair, and was supported by the guest of honour, the Premier (Sir Walter Lee), the Mayor (Colonel Snowden, M.H.A.), Sir Henry Jones, the Master Warden (Mr. R. G. Rogers), Hon. Tetley Gant, M.L.C., Hon.

W. M. Williams, M.L.C., Messrs. L. J. Crozier (vice-president of the Chamber), W. H. Simmonds (editor of "The Mercury"), L. M. Shoobridge, H. L. D'Emden (Deputy Postmaster-General), T. Lyons, H. H. Cummins (secretary of the Chamber), and other prominent men in the business community.

Afternoon tea was daintily served, after which the President proposed the toast, "Our Guest." He said they were very pleased to see Mr. Davies back safe and sound, and looking so well, after travelling many thousands of miles in one of the greatest countries in the world. Mr. Davies had crossed Canada, which was as large as Europe. The only things in which Canada could beat Australia were farm produce and manufactures.

Sir Henry Jones: In snow—that is all. (Laughter.)

The President said the climate of Canada was said to be one of the most bracing in the world. He thought Canada followed British ideals closer than any of the British dominions. In 1871 Canada had about the same population as Australia, but to-day it had almost double the population of Australia. Canada could beat Australia in its output of wheat and oats, but Australia had about ten times as many sheep and one and a half times as many cattle as Canada, while Canada was not in it as far as minerals were concerned. During the absence of Mr. Davies, Tasmania had kept the flag flying and made good progress under Sir Walter Lee, and its taxation had not increased. (Laughter.) On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce he had much pleasure in welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Davies back to Hobart.

The Premier said it gave him great pleasure to join in the welcome. Mr. Davies had certainly come back looking very well, and they were pleased to see him. It was a very fine thing that men occupying prominent positions in civic and public life should have an opportunity of travelling abroad to see what was being done in other parts of the world, carrying with them some message of what was being done in Tasmania, and to bring back some information as to what was being done in other parts of the world. That must be not only to the interest and benefit of the individual, but of benefit to the community as a whole. Particularly was this so when the individual was one who, as in the case of Mr. Davies, was connected with the Press, and who could, through the medium of the Press, give to the people, perhaps better than any ordinary individual, the impressions he had form-

ed during his trip abroad. He was pleased to see, in copies of newspapers he had received from Canada, that at some of the functions there at which he had spoken, Mr. Davies had taken the opportunity of putting forward the claims and advantages of Australia. In that he thought Mr. Davies had rendered good service to the community. Apropos the president's remarks, it was gratifying to know that Tasmania stood so well in the world to-day, both for its financial stability and the progress it was making. He felt certain there was a good future before the State. As to taxation, he trusted they would be able to continue on the lines which had given so much pleasure—carrying on the affairs of the State without imposing extra taxation. Up to the present it had not been necessary, but what might be necessary by the time they got to the end of the session he did not know. However, they had got a Legislative Council. (Laughter.) Mr. Davies happened to be there, and no doubt he would keep an eye on that part of the business. They all trusted Mr. Davies would be spared many years to carry on his good work as a citizen and public man in the State. (Applause.)

The Mayor, in endorsing the remarks of the previous speakers, said Mr. Davies had been attending a gathering of intellectual and deep-thinking gentlemen, assembled primarily for the purpose of maintaining the unity of the various Dominions of the Empire, and preventing the possibility of any disruption of that Empire. From the copies of Canadian newspapers he had seen Mr. Davies had never been backward, during his tour, in speaking of Australia and Tasmania, and in advertising the potentialities of the island State of which they were all so proud. During the absence of Mr. Davies there had been many activities in Tasmania, and the historical event of the visit of the Prince of Wales. He was sorry Mr. Davies had then been absent, and unable to see the popular colours of a prominent racing man carrying off the Prince of Wales Plate in Launceston. (Applause.) It was pleasing to see Mr. Davies looking so fit and well. He felt sure he was renewed in strength to carry on the many activities that fell to his lot in the community. On behalf of the citizens of Hobart, he extended to Mr. and Mrs. Davies a hearty welcome home. (Applause.)

The toast was enthusiastically received, and accorded musical honours. Cheers were also given for both Mr. and Mrs. Davies.

Hon. C. E. Davies, in reply, said he scarcely knew how to acknowledge the

very cordial reception extended to him on his return. He really thought it was almost worth while going away, if only for a few months, to come back and find his friends expressing such kindly regard towards his wife and himself. It was particularly satisfactory to him to know that in his efforts in the community he had earned the good-will of so many. (Applause.) Canada was one of the greatest countries in the world, and as people of the mighty British Empire we ought to be proud that such a great Dominion was part of it. He remembered saying at Edmonton, in a speech responding on behalf of the Australian party to a welcome given to the press visitors, that as long as we saw Canada progressing as it was we ought to be particularly satisfied with the position of the Empire. A great deal had been heard about the loyalty of the different parts of the Empire, but he honestly believed there was no more loyal nation in the world than Canada. (Applause.) The Imperial Press Conference he had attended was an assemblage of representatives of the principal newspapers in practically every part of the British Empire. The opening meeting of the conference at Ottawa had been presided over by the Duke of Devonshire, and messages had been received from His Majesty the King, Mr. Lloyd George, and other leading men of the Empire, extending every good wish to the conference, and expressing the hope that its deliberations might be of advantage to the Empire as a whole. They had had the opportunity of meeting all the leading men of Canada, including the Prime Minister, the leader of the Opposition, and members of Parliament. Without any thought of disparaging the public men of Canada, he wanted to say that, in his opinion, the public men of Australia compared very favourably with them. There were, of course, eminent men in Canada as in Australia, but on the whole Canada's public men were in no way superior to or of greater ability than the public men of Australia. The delegates to the conference had had the opportunity of hearing some very eloquent men, including Sir George Foster, and he did not desire to hear a greater orator than that gentleman. They had also heard some very able men belonging to the Canadian press, notably Mr. Ross and Mr. McDonald, and it had been a great pleasure to hear these gentlemen speaking on Empire matters. He had put his thoughts and ideas on the tour on paper, and he hoped during the next few weeks to give his friends and the general public an opportunity of reading these. (Applause.) Canada was a wonderful country, but, like Australia, it wanted population. The special

object of the Imperial Press Conference had been to give consideration to, among other subjects, the provision of better and cheaper cable services, and the reduction of postage rates, with a view, of course, to facilitating and expediting the dissemination of news to all parts of the world. Speaking at Edmonton, he had said he agreed with the sentiments expressed as to bringing the various parts of the Empire more closely together, but that, so far as he could see, it was all mere words, and he would like to see something in the way of action. They were all saying how they would like to get together, but they did not seem to get any forrader. He had gone on to say that the first object in endeavouring to get the Dominions more closely into touch with each other was to give the people of each Dominion information as to the aspirations and hopes of the other parts of the Empire. So far as Canada was concerned, he had seen very little news of Australia in the newspapers there, except an item giving agricultural statistics, and the extraordinary thing about that item was that it was cabled to Canada from Rome! He had learned afterwards that there was a statistical bureau in Rome, which sent this information all over the world. He had also pointed out that Australia got a good deal of news from Canada and the United States, but prize fights, divorces, and scandals seemed to be the pet subjects, and were not very instructive or inspiring. On being interviewed at Vancouver before he left, he had enlarged upon this matter of better communication between the different parts of the Empire, in the hope that the newspapers of Canada, which formed a powerful organisation, would do the same as the Australian press did--getting news from Australia in the same way that Australia got news from America, England, India, and other parts of the world. The Canadians had been surprised when he told them that nearly half the news published in the daily press of Australia was cabled from different parts of the world. This had seemed to the Canadians to be a great undertaking, but their idea of carrying on journalistic work was different from ours. The Australian press, he was glad to say, preserved the best traditions of the English press, but the Canadian press had a system of its own, which did not commend itself to English people or Australians. It was more of the sensational style. Every consideration had been given to the delegates in Canada. They had travelled 10,000 miles in luxurious trains, and had been splendidly entertained right through. Perhaps the Premier, who, with the heads of other Governments in Australia, might be asked to entertain press dele-

gates from other parts of the British Empire a few years hence, would like to know that it only cost Canada £60,000 or £70,000. (Laughter.) It had been particularly gratifying to find the press once more recognised as such a great power in the land. The Governors of the Canadian provinces, public men, and the people generally, seemed to vie with each other in seeing how much they could do to show their appreciation of the presence in their midst of the leaders of public opinion in the press throughout the British Empire. He was sure the conference would lead to a better understanding of the outlying parts of the Empire. Mrs. Davies and himself had had a very enjoyable time. They had met many old friends, who had made the visit one of delight and gratification. He had visited New York, and had found the humidity of its climate very trying. It was a wonderful city, but he did not want to live in it; it was too fast. When he got to Chicago, he found it faster still. (Laughter.) It was the most congested place he was ever in, and they thought nothing of killing 1,000 people a day in the streets there. Mrs. Davies and himself were delighted to be back home again, and he thanked them for their welcome. (Applause.)

("Mercury," October 23, 1920.)

"THE MERCURY" EMPLOYEES' WELCOME.

Cheeriness and good humour formed the keynote of the reception given the Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., and Mrs. Davies by the combined literary, commercial, and mechanical staffs of "The Mercury" and "Tasmanian Mail" at the Town-hall on Saturday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Davies have just returned from a tour of Canada and America, where Mr. Davies had been representing Tasmania at the Imperial Press Conference in Canada, and the occasion gave those who have been in the service of Messrs. Davies Bros. in most cases for very many years, and who have learnt to respect and value their association with Mr. Davies, the opportunity of bidding him "welcome home."

The result of the evening was a credit to the acting manager (Mr. W. H. Cummins) and the heads of departments and others who were associated with him in making the arrangements. The main hall was comfortably filled with members of the staffs, from old Mr. Tom Jones, who recently retired after 60 years' service with the firm, down to the latest-joined cadet on the literary staff or junior clerk in the office. Every department in the office was strongly re-

presented. The large number of ladies present—most of the members of the various staffs brought their wives, daughters, or sisters—made the work of those who had skilfully decorated the hall look poor by comparison.

Mr. and Mrs. Davies were met upon arrival by Mr. Cummins and the members of the committee, and as the party entered the hall the orchestra struck up "Home, Sweet Home," and the guests of the evening received a splendid welcome from the company. One half of the hall was cleared for dancing, and to the spirited music of an up-to-date jazz orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. A. Caddie, all the younger element were soon gliding and spinning through the mazes of fox-trots, waltzes, one-steps, and other more elaborate dances, while their elders settled down to bridge, euchre, or pleasant little chats. Mr. Davies had a busy time throughout the evening greeting old friends and employees, and received many congratulations upon the way in which his trip from all appearances had agreed with him. A feature of the evening was a cleverly edited and annotated programme, in which a number of snappy "digs" at various members of the staff created much fun and laughter. It also contained a history of the firm. A most excellent supper was handed round after dancing, cards, and conversation had received fair attention, and here again the young people especially distinguished themselves among the ices, claret, and cider cup and other more substantial good things awaiting them.

After the loyal toast had been honoured,

The Chairman (Mr. Cummins) proposed the health of the guests, and expressed the pleasure which everyone felt at seeing Mr. and Mrs. Davies back again, and in such health and spirits. He said that during their tour in Canada they had seen many interesting things, heard of many new ideas and much new machinery. One such machine not only folded the newspapers up, but sorted them into their proper mail bags, and, in fact, performed practically all the functions of the publishing staff. One could readily see from the Canadian newspapers which Mr. Davies had sent back that the press of that Dominion had adopted the methods and style of American rather than of British journalism, and that from an Australian viewpoint was unfortunate. There was opportunity for congratulation in the fact that the Australian press had followed the high traditions of the English press, and notwithstanding the

devices of the Canadian and American journals, the newspapers of Australia more than survived the ordeal of comparison, "The Mercury" not less than others. (Applause.) It needed few words from him to commend the toast, and he was happy to say that both Mr. and Mrs. Davies could see for themselves how glad everyone was to see them back. (Loud applause.)

The toast was drunk with musical honours, amid a scene of much enthusiasm and pleasure.

Hon. C. E. Davies, rising to reply on behalf of Mrs. Davies and himself, was met with a hearty round of applause. He said that it was difficult for him to find words to express his appreciation of the sincerity and heartiness of the manner in which the toast had been received. One of the greatest pleasures of coming home, even after an absence of only a few months, had been the warmth of the welcome which Mrs. Davies and he had received from people in all walks of life. None had been appreciated more than his welcome that evening, and it made him feel very proud. He had worked with most of those who were present for many years, and he felt that his life was closely identified with theirs. (Applause.) It had been one of the efforts of his life to win the esteem of the people with whom he had worked, and it was a source of pleasure, indeed, to find that he had been successful. (Applause.) During the last few months Mrs. Davies and he had met very many people, and their experiences had been many and varied. One of the drawbacks had been that all the faces were strange and the scenes new, but the memory of the friends and places which were dear and familiar had been with them, and they rejoiced now to be back to renew the old associations. He would have been pleased to describe some of their experiences, but a speech, he had heard a man say, should be like a woman's dress, just long enough to cover the subject, and just short enough to be interesting. (Laughter.) He could say, however, that of all the places which they had visited they had never seen any country so beautiful as Tasmania. (Applause.) He had never spoken of Australia without talking about Tasmania as well, and whenever he had heard Canadians speaking, as they did sometimes, as though Canada was the only place on earth, he always used to sympathise with them in their misfortune at never having seen Tasmania. He had been reported in one Canadian newspaper as having said that the cattle at a show in Vancouver were the finest in the world, but that was only one of the

little vagaries of the reporters over there. He had never seen the cattle at that particular show at all, and even if he had he could certainly never have said that about them. The flag at "The Mercury" office had indeed been kept flying while he was away, and he felt that he was very much indebted to Mr. Cummins and the literary, commercial, and mechanical staffs for the personal interest which all had evinced, and for the manner in which they had all worked together. "The Mercury" could bear comparison with any other paper in Australia; that was an opinion supported by many of the leading public men in the Commonwealth. One such man he had heard speaking in very flattering terms of the way in which "The Mercury" was conducted. (Applause.) The journey home had been pleasant, but it had seemed long, because they were homeward bound, and now that they were back he could assure them that the memory of their welcome that evening would remain with them as long as life itself. (Loud applause.)

Dancing was then resumed, and carried on until midnight, and everyone went home feeling that they were not only glad to see Mr. and Mrs. Davies home again, but pleased also that the opportunity of welcoming them had provided such enjoyment for themselves. The American Catering Company looked after the refreshments, which were in most excellent choice and generous profusion.

("Mercury," October 25, 1920.)

SPORTSMEN'S WELCOME.

Immediately following the second race at Elwick on Saturday there was a large gathering of sportsmen to welcome the Hon. C. E. Davies upon his return from Canada. The function took place in the committee-room, and was presided over by Mr. T. Lyons, chairman of the Tasmanian Racing Club. It also served the dual purpose of a welcome to Mr. W. H. Gill, another prominent sportsman, who recently returned from an American and Continental tour.

Mr. Lyons said it only seemed a few weeks ago that they had wished Mr. Davies bon voyage. Since then he had travelled many thousands of miles to attend the Imperial Press Conference in Canada. Judging from his appearance, he must have enjoyed his trip thoroughly. They were all glad to see him back, and the gathering that afternoon was for the purpose of giving him a hearty welcome. Mr. Davies was one of the oldest sportsmen in Tasmania, and had scored many successes. It must have been particularly gratifying to him to

see a horse of his own breeding win the first race that day. (Applause.) They regretted Mr. Davies was not with them on the occasion of the Royal visit race meeting, to meet His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. He was sure he would have been delighted to have been in close contact with His Royal Highness, who was such a thorough sportsman. One and all congratulated him on his safe return, and trusted his colours would be to the fore this season, as they had been in the past. It was also their desire that Mr. Davies should convey to Mrs. Davies a hearty welcome on her return.

The health of Mr. Davies was then drunk with musical honours.

Mr. Davies assured Mr. Lyons that he appreciated the compliment paid him in inviting him to meet so many old sportsmen. Although not present in person at recent meetings, his sporting friends were with him in thought throughout his travels. He congratulated the chairman upon the success which attended the Royal meeting. Naturally he would very much have liked to be present, and to have won the handicap. Still, he was very pleased when he received cable advice that his nephew had won with Harvesten at Elwick, and that his own horse, Eastern Star, had carried his colours to victory in the Royal Handicap at Launceston. He had had no opportunity of seeing any of the racecourses in Canada, but from what he could hear he did not think that racing in that country could compare with that in Australia. Returning via New Zealand he had the pleasure of visiting the Auckland course, which was one of the prettiest he had ever seen. He was delighted to be home amongst them all, as it was pleasant to be on a course where he knew everyone. Whilst absent from Tasmania he had had a splendid time, and hoped to have the opportunity during the next few weeks of letting them know publicly of his travels. He hoped his narratives would be both interesting and informative. Mr. Davies also acknowledged the kindly references to Mrs. Davies, and said he would have pleasure in conveying to her the sentiments expressed. (Applause.)

("Mercury," October 25, 1920.)

MASONIC.

WELCOMING THE GRAND MASTER.

There was a large attendance of Masonic Grand Lodge officers, Past Masters, Masters of Lodges, and Master Masons at the Masonic-hall yesterday afternoon to

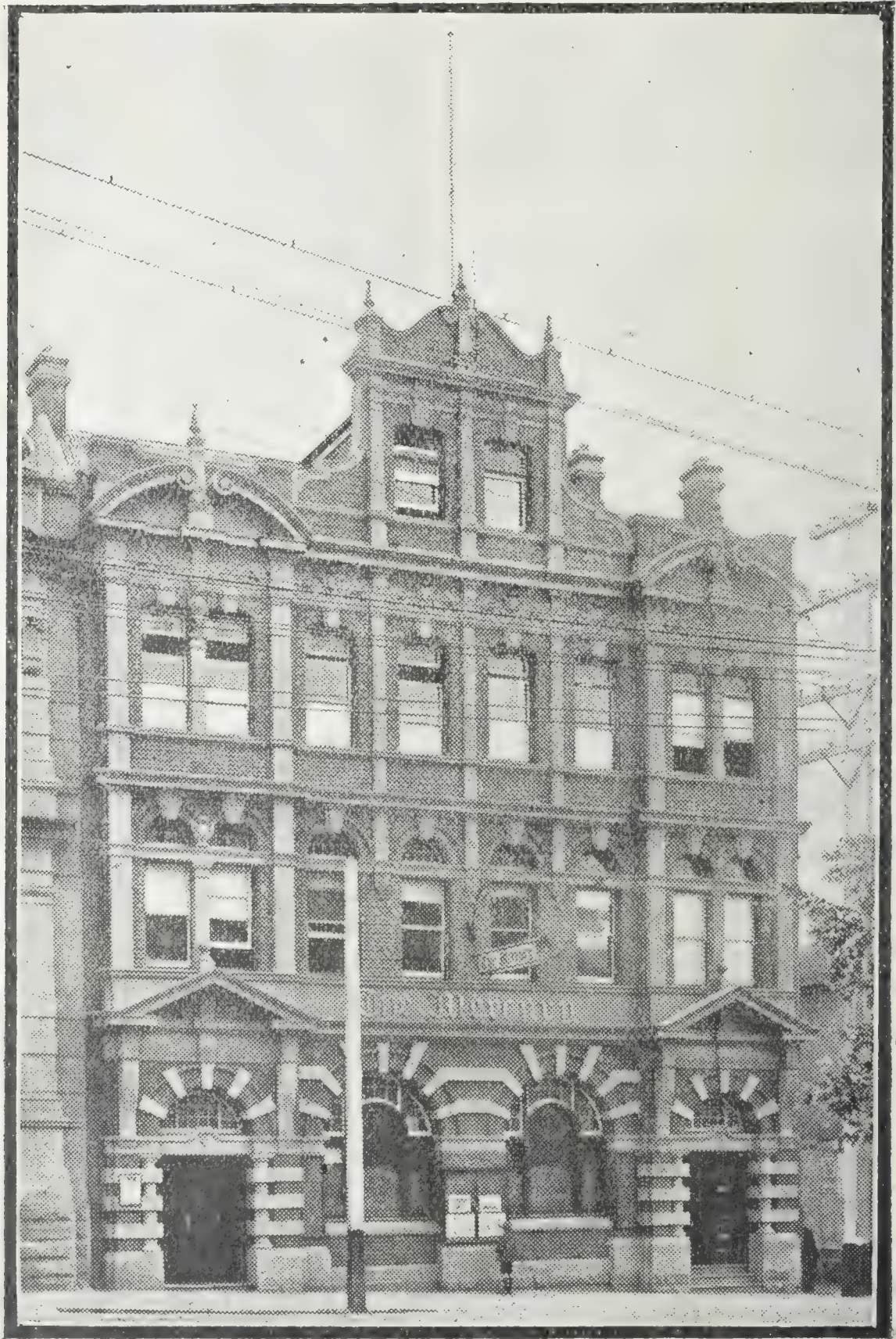
welcome the Grand Master (Most Wor. Bro. C. E. Davies, M.L.C.), upon his return from a trip to Canada and America in connection with the Empire Press Conference.

The Pro Grand Master (Most Wor. Bro. H. L. D'Emden), who presided, said he had convened the gathering at the request of brethren of the different lodges to welcome back their Grand Master. (Applause.) He assured the Grand Master that, though he had already been most warmly welcomed back by public bodies and by his own numerous employees, none could have been more sincere in their appreciation of his safe return than his brother Masons. (Renewed applause.) They were all extremely glad to find him looking so well, and that Mrs. Davies was also in excellent health, and to her their best thanks were due for having looked after him so well. (Laughter and applause.) During his absence they had tried to carry on Masonic matters as they considered he would have wished them carried on. The sum required for endowing a cot in the Children's Hospital as a Masonic memorial of the termination of the war had been subscribed, and the cot would be installed in a few days' time.

Bro. J. Adams, the W.M. of the Union Lodge, and Rt. Wor. Bro. Chas. Ramsay, Past Deputy G.M., Devonport, for the country lodges, also spoke, the latter stating that he had recently attended the Masonic centenary celebrations in Sydney, at which the good work of the Grand Master in Tasmania was referred to appreciatively. (Applause.)

The health of the Grand Master was then toasted with musical honours, and, in response, he thanked them all for their very cordial reception. He said he tried to live up to the high ideals that his friends on his return had credited him with. He then gave an interesting account of his meetings with many prominent men in Canada and the United States, who held high rank in the Craft, adding that he found there were Freemasons in great numbers everywhere. He especially referred to the cordial manner in which he was received and treated by prominent Masons at Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, New York, and Chicago, and narrated his observations of the workings of one or two lodges, which proved especially interesting to those present.

("Mercury," October 27, 1920.)



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